

The Nation

VOL. XXXIX.—NO. 992.

THURSDAY, JULY 3, 1884.

PRICE 10 CENTS.

Schools.

Alphabetized, first, by States; second, by Towns.

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BLACK HALL SCHOOL.—A family and Preparatory School for a few boys. Thorough instruction and careful training. Best of references given. CHARLES G. BARTLETT, Principal.

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MRS. S. THROOP'S ENGLISH AND French School for young ladies and children. Third year begins September 22. Boarding scholars limited to four.

MASSACHUSETTS, Andover.

ABBOT ACADEMY FOR YOUNG LADIES. The fifty-sixth year opens on Thursday, September 4. For admission apply to Miss PHILENA MCKEE, Principal; for circulars to W. F. DRAPER, Andover, Mass.

MARYLAND, Annapolis, 102 King George St.

ANNAPOLIS FEMALE INSTITUTE.—Mrs. Richard Welsh, Principal. Boarding and Day School for Young Ladies and Children. Will reopen September 15, 1884.

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MASSACHUSETTS, West Newton.

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NEW YORK, Albany.

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The Nation.

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

THE WEEK.....	1
SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.....	4
EDITORIAL ARTICLES:	
Tammany in National Conventions.....	6
Mr. Blaine's Veracity.....	6
Newspaper Privilege.....	7
The Antique Press.....	8
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE:	
The Yale and Harvard Boat Race.....	8
The Approach of Another Crisis.....	9
CORRESPONDENCE:	
A Business View.....	10
A Third Party.....	10
The Obligation of Neutrals.....	11
NOTES.....	11
REVIEWS:	
Haweis's Musical Memories.....	15
The River Congo.....	17
Recent Novels.....	18
Biogen.....	20
BOOKS OF THE WEEK.....	20

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The EDITION of THE NATION this week is 8,200 copies. The Subscription List is always open to inspection.

*Copies of THE NATION may be procured in London of B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar Square; George Street, 30 Cornhill, E. C.; H. F. Gillig & Co., 449 Strand; and American News Reading Room, 8 Haymarket.

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BURLINGTON, Vt., June 24, 1884.

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OFFICE OF THE

Atlantic Mutual

INSURANCE COMPANY.

NEW YORK, January 24, 1884.

The Trustees, in conformity to the Charter of the Company, submit the following Statement of its affairs on the 31st December, 1883.

Premiums on Marine Risks from 1st January, 1883, to 31st December, 1883..... \$4,168,953 10
 Premiums on Policies not marked off 1st January, 1883..... 1,539,232 53
 Total Marine Premiums..... \$5,708,185 63

Premiums marked off from 1st January, 1883, to 31st December, 1883..... \$4,200,428 93
 Losses paid during the same period..... \$1,901,042 38

Returns of Premiums and Expenses..... \$850,080 76

The Company has the following Assets, viz.:

United States and State of New York Stock, City, Bank, and other Stocks..... \$8,000,795 00
 Loans, secured by Stocks and otherwise..... 1,956,500 00
 Real Estate and Claims due the Company, estimated at..... 425,000 00
 Premium Notes and Bills Receivable..... 1,588,306 79
 Cash in Bank..... 335,710 68
 Amount..... \$12,972,312 47

Six per cent. interest on the outstanding certificates of profits will be paid to the holders thereof, or their legal representatives, on and after Tuesday, the fifth of February next.

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The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JULY 3, 1884.

The Week.

GOVERNOR CLEVELAND seems to have already a good majority of the Chicago Convention in his favor, and his strength is probably much greater than it appears to be on the surface. The Tilden influence is considered to be for him, and that of itself is sufficient to secure his nomination. There is much talk about other opponents to him than John Kelly, but none of them are brought forward. All the strong men in the party in this State—men like ex-Governor Seymour, ex-Senator Kernan, Mr. Hewitt, and Mr. Dorsheimer—say that Cleveland is the man to be nominated, and even Kelly has given his word to support him if he becomes the candidate. If the nomination goes to Cleveland, it will be the outcome of as spontaneous a movement as there has been in politics for a long time. Even his enemies do not charge that he has made any effort to get it. In a private letter which he wrote to a friend in Alabama, last week, he said:

"I feel that I now occupy in my own State a position high enough for all my ambition, and in which I have hoped that I could do some good to the people and to my party. I am seeking no other office, and think that, above all other things, the people should have their way in this matter."

There are no signs that the Democratic opposition to Cleveland's nomination is making much headway. Delegations in his favor were chosen in Arkansas and Florida, and his strength in the Convention must now be very nearly two-thirds of all the delegates. The opposition is concentrated upon no single candidate, and is merely a rallying of the dissatisfied elements about Tammany in the hope of stopping the drift toward Cleveland. This is precisely the condition of affairs which Kelly delights in. It increases his national importance, and enables him to appear in the Convention as a distinct "power." For this purpose any candidate suits him. He was for Hendricks in 1876, and for Bayard in 1880. When he is not for McDonald now, he is for Bayard—not that he cares anything about either or expects to see either nominated, but because he does not like Cleveland, and because he looms into much larger proportions as an opposing than as a harmonious element.

The appeal of the Manufacturers' League to the Democrats urges them to put in their platform resolutions asserting the following principles: First. The abolition of all duties on raw materials in order that we may compete in home and foreign markets with other manufacturing nations, not one of which taxes raw materials. Second. The adjustment of the tariff, so that manufactures approaching nearest the crude state will pay the lower rate, and manufactures that have further advanced, requiring more skill and labor, will pay the higher rate of duties. The signers call attention to the fact that in the coming election the great

manufacturing States of New York, Connecticut, and Massachusetts will be doubtful. They are ripe, the address says, for tariff reform, because their manufactures are "languishing for want of cheap materials." They add that our entire tariff system is wrong; fit only to be called a "patchwork of bargains," speak most unkindly and unfeelingly about wool, and make a strong appeal for "free raw materials" and "the markets of the world." That the tariff is a "patchwork of bargains" is something that most Democrats outside of Pennsylvania and Ohio would probably not differ much about—the sentiment of the South is a unit on this subject. "Horizontal" reduction has been tried and not proved a success. The Democrats will have a good deal of difficulty in drawing a tariff to suit everybody, and the indications now are that they will not try very hard to satisfy the protectionist wing of the party.

The behavior of the Ohio Democratic Convention last week was that of a body which adopts a nominal candidate and platform as a cover for "operations" of one kind or another. It demanded the renomination of Tilden, who is not in the field, and again hoisted its ridiculous tariff platform of 1883:

"We favor a tariff for revenue, limited to the necessities of the Government economically administered, and so adjusted in its application as to prevent unequal burdens, encourage productive industries at home, and offer a just compensation for labor, but not to create or foster monopolies."

It also demands justice to "wool," in the shape of an "equitable readjustment of the duties," and that wool should be "fully and equally favored with other industries." The entire Republican party has come out in favor of justice to wool, and there is clearly a strong minority of the Democrats on the same side. Wool could never have been singled out in this way unless it had been subjected to extraordinary outrage. There are several other industries in the country which are suffering, but their troubles are no doubt due to natural causes. It is only wool which has been persecuted. There is something innocent about an industry so full of pastoral associations, which rouses the worst passions of the depraved and leads them to continue their onslaughts upon it in defiance of public opinion.

There is some diversity of views among the members of the Republican National Committee as to the state of the campaign. Mr. Powell Clayton, of Arkansas, who is supposed to be tolerably familiar with Southern politics, delivers the frank opinion, in the columns of the *Tribune*, that it will not be safe to count on the vote of any Southern State for Blaine and Logan. "We should set out," he says, "to carry every Northern State, and do it if we can; then if we pick up a Southern State or two we shall be so much ahead." This is in refreshing contrast with the generous but somewhat vague claim of Senator Blair, of New Hampshire, whose remarks follow Mr. Clayton's in the same column,

viz.: "All I can say, if I should talk all day, is that we shall elect the Republican ticket; that is all there is to be said; it is enough to say." A Committeeman from Arizona, who has been spending some time in New England, thinks that reading matter is wanted in that section to counteract the baleful influence of the Boston press. "They need documents and newspapers in Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire," he tells us. The people there are disgusted with their own newspapers, but don't know how to get any other kind. They are perishing for want of the true word. Fortunately, there is a way to supply this want. It is only necessary for the manufacturers to pay \$20,000 to circulate the *Philadelphia Press* in New England. This is what they have done or are trying to do in Pennsylvania. The *Times* of Philadelphia makes light of this affair, calls it a subsidy, and intimates that its contemporary is reduced to beggary. But the *Press* insists that it is a serious matter, and that the money is coming in rapidly. Why not try the same plan for enlightening New England?

The Blaine Campaign Committee, like everything else connected with the Blaine canvass, has been organized on the humbug basis. A rich manufacturer of Pittsburgh has been selected by Mr. Blaine himself for Chairman, although he has never had any experience in political management, and has no qualification for the place aside from a large bank account and a willingness to contribute to campaign funds. He was put up as a figure-head to show that the industrial interests of the country are rallying about Blaine to save the American protective system from the free-trade dudes who are trying to overthrow it. The active work of leadership will devolve upon an Executive Committee, of which Steve Elkins, Chauncey I. Filley, Jerome B. Chaffee, John C. New, and other experienced politicians are expected to be the controlling spirits, with Elkins in command. He has already engaged a four-story house on Fifth Avenue for a headquarters, and has begun work as the real leader under the personal instructions of Mr. Blaine himself. Of his qualifications for the place there can be no doubt. Not only was the Chicago nomination due more to his efforts than to those of anybody else, but he has a "record" for successful work which almost overshadows that achievement. Dorsey, the great "soap" distributor in the last Republican campaign, said of Elkins in a recent letter: "S. B. Elkins has probably a larger knowledge than any other person of all the Star-route matters and the money paid."

The theory of the Blaine managers appears to be that Mr. Blaine will get the following "votes": The Hebrew vote, because he spoke severely about the persecution of the Jews by Russia; the Dynamite vote, because he is down on the English; the Star-route vote, for reasons not necessary to be mentioned; the Tammany vote, because John Kelly dislikes Tilden and Cleveland; the Johnny O'Brien vote, because

Johanny O'Brien likes John Kelly; the Country vote, because the country voter is so ignorant; the Soldiers' vote, because of Logan; the Peanut vote, because it is the "Boys" who eat peanuts; the Cowboy vote, because the Cowboys like magnetism; the anti-Mexican vote, because Blaine is an annexationist; the Catholic vote, because Blaine was born a Catholic; the Congregational vote, because he is now a Congregationalist. In this way he expects to be able to dispense with the Republican vote altogether.

Bob Ingersoll has not yet succeeded in "getting his coat off" for Blaine. He talks mildly in his support, a fact which is itself ominous, for Bob is never mild about anything which really commands his sympathies. He says he thinks Blaine will be elected, but does not wish at present to express any extended opinions. "Men are liable," he adds, "to get on their ear too quick in politics. Wait till we see whom the Democrats nominate. There is this in Blaine's favor: they can't say anything worse about him than has been said." That is very doubtful support. The great point which the Blaine managers are making about the charges against him is that they are merely the usual campaign slanders. Ingersoll knocks this over by admitting that they are not new; that they have been before the public for a long time, and that they are so bad that nothing worse can be disclosed. This is so. The charges against Blaine are simply the facts in his record. He himself read the worst of them in public when he read the Mulligan letters in Congress. Anybody who will take the trouble to hunt up in the *Congressional Record* the official report of that scene, will notice that after he had read the letter in which he had said that he would not be a "deadhead in the enterprise," and that he saw various channels in which he knew he could be "useful," he made no comments whatever upon those astonishing passages. He could not explain them, and none of his defenders have ever been able to explain them.

There is considerable curiosity to know what the attitude of Wayne MacVeagh is toward Blaine and Logan. There has been no word heard from him since the nominations, which is a little singular, considering that he was an associate with Mr. Blaine in Garfield's Cabinet. The fact is recalled now that in his testimony about the Star-route prosecutions he said that his efforts to bring certain members of the ring to justice were defeated by some power which was higher and greater than his own. Mr. Merrick gave similar evidence in regard to Bosler, and he was understood in Washington as meaning that the higher power was Mr. Blaine himself. Mr. MacVeagh's opinion on this point would be very interesting. It is unfortunate for Mr. Blaine that all the members of the Star-route ring are the most enthusiastic advocates of his election as they were of his nomination, and that one of them has since the nomination been received as an honored guest in Blaine's house, and is the real manager of the Blaine campaign.

As an offset to the Republican talk about Bayard's disloyal utterances in 1861, the *Herald* publishes some very interesting extracts from the speeches of General Logan, made while he was a Democratic Congressman in 1859 and 1860. In one of these he spoke of the northern portion of Illinois as being "so blighted by the contaminating touch of abolitionism that it almost refuses to produce fruits"; of John Brown as a "traitor, thief, and scoundrel"; and in another of Seward and Lincoln as men "who have engaged, if not directly, indirectly, in murder and everything that is disreputable, dishonorable, disgraceful, and shocking to humanity," and who ought to be sent to the penitentiary, as they would be if the bill which he was advocating became a law. This is a great deal worse than anything which Bayard ever said, but it was in perfect harmony with what Logan had said in anti-slavery debates in Congress. He defended the Southern side of the question with great exuberance of language, saying that if the catching and returning of fugitive slaves by Northern Democrats was dirty work, they were willing to perform it. "I do not," he said so late as December, 1859, "consider it disgraceful to perform any work, dirty or not dirty, which is in accordance with the laws of the land and the Constitution of the country." We presume if he had spoken in Spanish or French, or even Latin, he would have defined his views less bluntly, but as they read now in plain, pioneer English, they constitute a record which would ruin any man who was running for office as a Democrat.

In the House on Tuesday Mr. Randall submitted the report of the Conference Committee on the Naval Appropriation Bill, announcing an inability to agree. The chief items of disagreement, he declared, had been the work on the new cruisers, and on the double-turreted monitors. Nothing, he added, but an instruction from the House would induce the House conferees to recede on these two points. As to the cruisers, "they had not that confidence in the manner of the construction of these cruisers that warranted a further expenditure of public money in order to duplicate them"; as to the monitors, he seemed to consider the discussion closed by the action of the last House in refusing to appropriate. Mr. Randall's refusal to agree was, after a debate in which nothing new was brought out, sustained by the House by a heavy majority.

The Republicans at Chicago put a plank in their platform insisting on a restoration of the navy to its "old-time strength and efficiency," able to protect the rights of American citizens and the interests of American commerce "in any sea," so that it may again be true that we have a navy which "takes no law from superior force." The supporters of Mr. Blaine will, during the campaign, denounce the Democrats for their vote on this question; but Mr. Randall's position is for all that a very sound one. The plans for the cruisers have never met the approval of the best experts, and it is, to say the least,

an open question whether the navy would be better off with them than without them and there is no excuse for appropriating money under these circumstances. The fact that a man like "Bill" Chandler has been put at the head of the Department is not calculated to inspire confidence, and the whole administration of the navy for years has been a long record of scandals, jobs, and waste. No matter what the appropriations for construction and repair have been, no navy worth the name has been produced. This has not been solely the fault of the Administration, but there is little doubt that with an honest and efficient Administration we would get a navy. It is better to wait until we see who is going to be at the head of the Government for the next four years. The attempt of Mr. Blaine's supporters to persuade the public that what the Democrats really want is to render the navy inefficient will, we imagine, deceive very few people.

The House has passed the new Anti-Chinese Bill, and the measure is before the Senate. Facts were brought out, however, in the House debate, which seem to show that the bill of 1882 has already accomplished its object, and that no more laws are needed to make the Chinese go, or prevent them from coming; because they do not come, and are on the contrary emigrating from the United States. Mr. Hitt, of Illinois, who delivered a very good speech on the subject in the House, gave the latest official statistics as to Chinese immigration. From these it appears that from October 1, 1882, to March 31, 1884, the total number of Chinese who arrived in our ports was 455, of whom 287 were merchants, entitled as such to come here if holding passports. These figures come from the Treasury Department, and are vouched for by Mr. Nimmo. Moreover, Mr. Hitt adds, nearly all these arrivals were in the months prior to January, 1884, and the last five steamers have brought none. The explanation of this is that last fall, long before Congress met, complaint being made that some of the "merchants" got passports by means of fraud, and were really laborers, the Chinese Government took the matter up, dismissed the officer who had committed the frauds, and thus stopped even this slender rill of emigration.

It appears from a statement contained in a judicial opinion of Judge Ogden Hoffman, of San Francisco, one of the best judges on the Federal bench, that from August 6, 1882, to January 15, 1884, there were 3,415 Chinese arrivals at San Francisco, and 17,088 departures. "Not only," says the Judge, "has the flood of Chinese immigration, with which we were menaced, been stayed, but a process of departure has been going on which could not be considerably increased without serious disturbance to the established industries of the State. It is stated that the wages of Chinese laborers have advanced from \$1 to \$1.75 per diem; a fact of much significance if true. It is much to be regretted that the notion that the law has, through its own defects or the fault of the

courts, proved practically inoperative, has been so widely and persistently disseminated." These words were uttered by Judge Hoffman from the bench on the 31st of January last. Already, said Mr. Hitt, the prediction of industrial derangement has been fulfilled. The cigar-makers of San Francisco, for instance, over 3,000 in number, struck for wages so high that a lock-out ensued, and labor had to be imported from the Atlantic Coast. It is no longer a question whether the Chinese must go. They have gone. This seems to make further agitation of the matter absurd; but the agitators are too interested in their great reform to be satisfied with stopping the immigration of Chinese subjects. It will be remembered that the Anti-Chinese Act was passed nominally to carry out the provisions of a treaty with China, and Judges Nelson and Lowell, in Boston, held that legislation under the treaty could not be held to apply to persons over whom the Emperor of China had no jurisdiction, *e. g.*, the natives of Hong Kong, a British colony. There are about 100,000 of these people, and though they show no special desire to come here, probably preferring the milder laws of Great Britain, the agitators mean to be ready for them, should they change their minds; and accordingly the new law provides that "the provisions of this act shall apply to . . . Chinese, whether subjects of China or any other foreign Power." This is evidently intended to be very thoroughgoing, and to dispose of the whole subject, and take the Chinese out of politics entirely. There is a hint in all this for the Democratic Convention. They can either treat the matter as settled, or they can promise to pass whatever legislation the Pacific Slope demands.

The report of Mr. Slater, from the Senate Committee on Public Lands, in regard to the Northern Pacific land grant, differs from the House report on the same subject in the important particular that it raises no question as to the lands already earned by the construction of the road. The House report proposed to forfeit all lands not earned within the time when the road ought to have been completed. The Senate bill deals only with lands in Oregon and Washington Territory adjacent to the projected lines which have not been built, and by inference confirms, if confirmation is needed, the grant appertaining to the completed line. The projected but unfinished lines are two in number: one down the Columbia River, parallel with the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company's road, and the other across the Cascade Mountains, from the junction of the Snake and Columbia Rivers to Puget Sound. The lands on the Oregon line are confessedly of little value, and there is no intention on the part of the company to build that section either now or at any future time. The country on the Cascade division, with the exception of the Yakima Valley, in which a twenty-five-mile section of the road has already been built, is of a very dubious character, while the cost of building a railway through it, esti-

mated by the engineers at \$6,000,000 to \$10,000,000, would be vastly in excess of the value of the lands to be earned by it.

The Boston papers have had a good deal to say lately about a letter addressed to Minister Lowell by certain Scotch bondholders of the Oregonian Railway (limited), who have complained to him that that railway was constructed with their money, and leased to the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company for a fixed rental, and that the latter company has repudiated the lease and thrown the road back on their hands after having allowed it to run down and depreciate in value to the estimated extent of \$2,500,000. The reply of Mr. Lowell to the communication has not been received on this side, but it is probable that he told the petitioners that the question submitted to him was not a diplomatic but a judicial one, and that the proper tribunal to carry the case to was the Circuit Court of the United States. The bondholders of the Oregonian Railway Company are sufficiently well acquainted with our laws and institutions to know this. They know that in a similar case in England they would not appeal to Mr. Gladstone to set things to rights, but to Chief Justice Coleridge or whatever court has legal jurisdiction of railroad leases and contracts. Therefore the move made upon Minister Lowell must be understood to have for its object some moral purpose like that of putting the officers and directors of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company to shame, and thus bringing them to the payment of the lease money.

The Boston *Advertiser* now sets forth the case of the other side, the substance of which is that the Oregonian Railway (limited) was in its inception a blackmailing enterprise, and that the Scotch bondholders knew this fact, or could easily have learned it; that it does not earn its operating expenses; that the lease made by the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company was void from the beginning, being *ultra vires*; that the road has not been allowed to run down a dollar's worth, but is in as good condition now as when the lease was made; that the lease was an injurious one to the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company and ought to be rescinded for want of consideration. The only weak point in this line of argument is that it is not proper for the lessee company to plead *ultra vires* against itself—to go into court and allege that it had no power to do the thing which it did do. This appears to us to be a bar to the abrogation of the lease, but Mr. Charles H. Tweed, the company's counsel, thinks otherwise, and the courts will determine whether it is so or not. That the Oregonian Railway (limited) was a blackmailing enterprise is pretty well known on the Pacific Coast. It is also well known that no railroad will long continue to pay for the lease of another road more than the amount of money which the latter can earn, or the amount of damage which it can inflict as an independent concern on the former. This was undoubtedly known to the Scotch investors in the Oregonian Company's bonds

at the time when they made their investments.

The ladies' gambling scare bids fair to equal in importance the lady inebriate scare. In the London press, every year powerful articles are written showing what domestic misery is entailed upon the nation whose mothers, and wives, and daughters fall victims to the demon Rum. The fact is that most ladies dislike Rum, and this is what preserves them from the demon's clutch. They are preserved, on the other hand, or most of them are, from the dangers of gambling by the fact that men do not like to gamble with them, partly because of a tradition prevalent among male betters that women when they lose do not pay. Ladies are also preserved by an additional safeguard, that as they generally lose their heads, they are, in the language of the wicked, soon "cleaned out." Consequently, it is the tradition of the sex that a lady never plays for high stakes. These facts ought to be borne in mind by the social observers who are so shocked by the presence of ladies at Sheephead Bay, and are ready to believe the stories of their being heavy gamblers.

The tide seems to have turned in England as regards the course of trade and industry. The returns of the Board of Trade for May show an increase of exports, as compared with the same month of 1883, of £2,738,415, or 11.6 per cent. Imports during the same time show a decrease of £3,056,329, or 8.4 per cent. For the first five months of the present year the exports show a gain of about £2,500,000, and the imports a falling off of £10,500,000. The diminution in the value of imports is due largely to the decline in the prices of food products, and especially of cereals and sugar. The increase in exports is chiefly in manufactured goods, for which the foreign demand is said to be improving.

The course of domestic trade shows no sign of improvement, nor is any activity to be looked for until the condition of the crops is more fully ascertained. The outlook at this time is extremely favorable, but it is too early to make predictions. The "Presidential year" is always bad for trade, and this year happens to have peculiar drawbacks of its own, not connected with politics. These are reflected in the Wall Street markets, where securities have fallen to a point which not even the most gloomy imagination could have anticipated six months ago. Business at the Stock Exchange has fallen into the hands of "room traders" almost exclusively. There has been no time, perhaps, within the memory of the oldest inhabitant when so little business was doing by the general public. The only stocks which appear to be "sustained" are Missouri Pacific, Western Union, and Lackawanna. All the others have been left to find their own level. This is really a wholesome condition, and the only condition upon which a genuine revival can be built up. When the public become satisfied that stocks are selling for what they are worth, and not at prices fixed by interested capitalists and cliques who have loans to protect, they will come in as buyers, and not before.

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, TO TUESDAY, JULY 1, 1884, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

THE Republican National Committee met in this city on Thursday and elected B. F. Jones, a wealthy iron manufacturer, of Pittsburgh, Pa., Chairman, and Samuel Fessenden, of Connecticut, Secretary. Executive and Finance Committees were also elected.

At a meeting of the New York State Committee on the same day James D. Warren, of Buffalo, an Arthur man now supporting Blaine, was reelected Chairman. John W. Vrooman was made Secretary. Andrew S. Draper is Chairman of the Executive Committee.

The Indiana Democratic State Convention on Wednesday nominated Colonel Gray for Governor on the first ballot, Senator Voorhees having refused the nomination. The platform instructs the delegation to vote for McDonald for President.

On the same day the Ohio Democrats adopted a resolution, amid great enthusiasm, that Tilden receive the vote of the State delegates at Chicago. A motion to adopt the unit rule was tabled. The platform contains the well-known plank "straddling" the tariff question, which has appeared in previous Democratic platforms of that and other States. Durbin Ward, John R. McLean, ex-Senator Thurman, and J. W. Mueller were elected delegates at large to Chicago. There were some signs of revolt against the dictatorship of John R. McLean, of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*. The recognition given the old leaders, such as Thurman and Ward, was significant. It means that Payne will not receive the solid Ohio vote at Chicago. Since the Convention the *Enquirer* has come out for Governor Hoadly, of Ohio, for President.

The platform of the Missouri Democrats, adopted on Wednesday, says: "We especially declare in favor of a tariff for the purpose of revenue, and that the taxing power of the Government should be thus limited, and we are opposed to all policies intended or calculated to foster monopolies at the expense of the people."

The Arkansas Democratic delegates to Chicago will be unanimous for Cleveland if he has the support of the East. The platform demands "a material reduction of the present excessive tariff duties and such a revision of the laws imposing them as will equalize the burdens and benefits derived from their levy and collection."

Efforts are making to secure an adjournment of Congress on July 5. On Monday Mr. Randall (Dem., Pa.) introduced a joint resolution providing that all appropriations for the necessary operations of the Government under existing laws which shall remain unprovided for after June 30, 1884, shall be continued and made available for the period of five days from and after that date, unless the regular appropriation bills now pending shall have been previously enacted. Passed.

The Senate on Tuesday, by a vote of 36 to 20, referred to the Committee on Finance a joint resolution introduced by Mr. Cameron, of Pennsylvania, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to redeem \$10,000,000 worth of trade dollars at their face value. This practically kills trade-dollar legislation for this session.

Some excitement was caused in the House of Representatives on Friday by Mr. Valentine (Rep., Neb.) charging that Mr. McAdoo (Dem., N. J.) had violated his privilege in printing in the *Record*, as part of a speech, a newspaper article representing Senator Logan as the owner of 80,000 acres of land in New Mexico. Mr. Valentine said all the land that Logan owns is his homestead in Illinois. Mr. McAdoo defended himself, saying among other things that on principle he objected to

any man's owning 80,000 acres of land. The House on Saturday laid on the table a motion to insert a modifying phrase in the *Record*, stating that the speech had not been delivered.

The majority and minority Fortification Bills were on Saturday reported from the House Committee on Appropriations. The former provides for the appropriation of \$3,270,000, and the latter for \$1,595,000.

In Committee of the Whole of the House of Representatives on Monday a warm debate took place on the Fortifications Appropriation Bill. Mr. Horr, of Michigan, Mr. Finerty, of Illinois, and Mr. Dorsheimer, of New York, advocated the majority report, which appropriates about \$3,000,000. Mr. Holman, of Indiana, and Mr. Follett, of Ohio, advocated the more economical minority report, which is favored by Mr. Randall, the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee.

In the House on Tuesday there was a sharp debate on the report of the conferees refusing to accede to the Senate amendment to the Naval Bill providing for the appropriations for new cruisers and for continuation of the work on the double-turreted monitors. Mr. Randall said that nothing but an instruction from the House would induce the conferees to yield these points to the Senate. Mr. Calkins (Rep., Md.) spoke in favor of the amendment. The Democratic position evidently is that they will not permit the cruisers to be constructed during the campaign. By a vote of 90 to 147, the House refused to accede to the Senate amendment. Unexpectedly the House acquiesced in the Senate amendments to the Post office Appropriation Bill.

The Senate Committee on Public Lands has prepared a report declaring forfeited such of the lands granted to the Northern Pacific Railroad Company to aid in the construction of its road as are adjacent to and continuous with the uncompleted portions of the road on the main line and branch road.

Secretary Chandler appeared on Thursday as a witness before a sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Expenditures of Public Money, and was examined in relation to the recently discovered frauds. He said frauds had been committed by means of false vouchers for goods never delivered. He said he should have removed Dr. Wales sooner but for the "pressure" to retain him, mainly from members of Congress. He added: "I am mortified and humiliated that, notwithstanding these frauds began long before I went into the Department, they have continued more or less in this Bureau since I have been over it."

Ex-Senator Kellogg at his own request appeared before the Springer Committee on Tuesday to make a statement relative to his connection with Star-routes. He said: "A number of witnesses before this Committee have been dwelling on my indictment as an offence involving bribery. There is no charge that I paid Brady any money whatever. I utterly deny telling Walsh to put one-half of a certain amount to my credit, and one-half to Brady's." He emphatically denied other charges against him in Star-route matters.

The President signed the Dingley Shipping Bill on Thursday, and it took effect on Tuesday. The Treasury officials have sent a circular embodying the bill and instructions to Collectors of Customs. The circular instructs Collectors to impose tonnage dues of three and six cents per ton at each entry on vessels from foreign ports, in lieu of the old rates. No hospital tax is to be collected. Shipping Commissioners in office at the time of the passage of the law are to continue in office until appointments are made by the Secretary of the Treasury, under whose jurisdiction these officers are hereafter to be placed. The Secretary of State will at once inform consuls of the abolition of the three months' extra wages and consular fees for services to vessels. President Arthur will issue a proclama-

tion directing that no tax be collected on vessels in trade with Canada as soon as he receives official notice that Canada imposes no such charges.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued a call for \$10,000,000 3 per cent. bonds. The principal and accrued interest will be paid August 1.

The decrease of the public debt of the United States during June was \$9,217,256, and since June 30, 1883, \$101,040,911.

The Department of State at Washington has been notified that an International Educational Conference will be held at London on the 4th of August next, at which eminent British educationalists will read papers. This Government is invited to send representatives to the Conference, and to forward reports on the present condition of education.

The Rev. William B. Derrick, colored, of New York, but formerly of Albany, has declined the nomination of elector-at-large in this State on the Republican ticket. Affidavits charging him with not being an American citizen have been made, and rather than have the question arise Mr. Derrick, it is understood, has decided to withdraw.

Commencement exercises were held at Harvard, Yale, Union, Lafayette, and Hamilton on Wednesday. Harvard awarded the degree of LL.D. to James Russell Lowell, Francis James Child, Simon Newcomb, and Richard Claverhouse Jebb, of Glasgow. Professor Jebb delivered the Phi Beta Kappa oration on Thursday, his subject being "Some Ancient Organs of Public Opinion." Yale gave the degree of LL.D. to Governor Hoadly, of Ohio; Judge Nathaniel Shipman, of Hartford, class of 1848; Charles F. Southmayd, New York; Ellis H. Roberts, Utica, class of 1850. Thomas G. Bennett, a graduate of the Sheffield Scientific School, was elected to the vacant membership of the Yale College Corporation, in place of Mason Young.

The resignation of President Potter, of Union College, has been accepted, and he has been elected Bishop of Nebraska.

The Faculty of Hamilton College, with the exception of Professors North and Frink, have united in a letter to the trustees saying that the prosperity of the College is impossible under the Presidency of Dr. Darling. Professor North is a trustee and so does not appear as a signer. The matter has been referred to a special committee of the trustees.

At New London, Conn., on Thursday afternoon, Yale defeated Harvard in the eight-oar boat race, four miles straight away, by about four lengths; time, 20:31, the fastest on record; Harvard time, 20:48. On the same afternoon and course the Columbia Freshman crew won the two-mile race over Harvard; time, 9:43½; Harvard, 9:54.

Yale won the College Base-ball championship. The decisive game was played at Brooklyn on Friday, with Harvard. The score was 4 to 2.

William A. Beach, one of the most prominent lawyers of this city, died at Tarrytown on Saturday. He was seventy-five years of age.

FOREIGN.

On Saturday at 3 o'clock the Egyptian Conference met in the British Foreign Office at London. Musurus Pasha, the Turkish Ambassador to England, was present.

At the first session of the Conference of the five Powers Earl Granville briefly stated the financial proposals to be considered by the delegates. The London *Observer* believes Earl Granville's proposals have in view the reduction of the interest on the unified 4 per cent. debt and the privileged debt each to one-half the present rates; the domain loans at 5 per cent. and the Daira Sanied loans at 4 to 5 per cent. are to be left as at present. If the revenues are insufficient to pay the Daira interest, the Egyptian Treasury only is to be called upon to make up the amount, less one-half per cent.

The sinking funds belonging to the privileged and unified debts are to be suspended. The interest Egypt pays on the Suez Canal shares held by England is to be reduced from one-half to three-quarters, as may be deemed advisable. England is to advance or guarantee a loan of £8,000,000 to Egypt, this loan taking precedence of all existing loans. The proposals have also in view a reduction of taxes in Egypt to the extent of from £3,000,000 to £4,000,000. The Conference has adjourned, possibly for ten days, to allow the finance experts to examine the proposals.

It was reported from London on Tuesday that the Conference had given a favorable reception to England's financial proposals.

The *Cologne Gazette*, which frequently speaks by inspiration from Berlin, has recently published a peculiarly irritating article against England. The article baldly states that the understanding reached between England and France concerning Egyptian affairs in the Conference is undoubtedly due to their common hatred of Germany. England, the *Gazette* says, aims at leadership wherever it can be attained without assuming the burdens of the costly armaments which other Powers find necessary for the protection of their national interests. Mr. Gladstone perceives that France must be useful to England some day in the near future as a sort of shield bearer, and on this account he has manoeuvred to pledge France toward British designs. In conclusion, the *Gazette* insinuates that England's hurry in calling the Egyptian Conference is due principally to her fears that Germany may reopen the question of the Dutch succession, and to her desire to secure a European partnership which may be extended to the Dutch question if it comes up.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday Sir Stafford Northcote gave notice that he intended to offer a motion of censure of the Government's Egyptian policy. The words of the motion of censure are: "That the agreement proposed between England and France would not establish good government and tranquillity in Egypt, or justify England in assuming a loan to Egypt or in guaranteeing the Egyptian debt." Mr. Arthur Arnold, Liberal member for Salford, gave notice that he would offer the following amendment to the censure motion: "That Parliament withholds the expression of an opinion regarding the negotiations with France until it knows what proposals on Egyptian finance are to be submitted to the Conference."

Sir Stafford Northcote presided at a Conservative meeting at the Carlton Club on Thursday. He urged the party to support the motion of censure. Some of those present dissented. The meeting, however, finally united in favor of immediate action.

In the House of Commons on Monday Mr. Gladstone moved that the vote of censure of the Government's Egyptian policy be given precedence of all other business. This motion was defeated by a vote of 190 to 148. The rejection of the motion was wholly unexpected. Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues in the Government voted with the Conservatives in order to allow the debate on the vote of censure to take place as soon as possible. The Parnellites and a majority of the Liberals opposed the motion. Three motions to adjourn were made by the Conservatives, but were rejected.

At a large meeting of Conservative peers held at the residence of the Marquis of Salisbury on Tuesday, it was unanimously decided to support the Earl of Carnarvon's motion censuring the Government's Egyptian policy. The question of taking a division on the motion will depend, however, on Earl Granville's reply. The policy to be pursued toward the Franchise Bill was left to the party leaders for further consideration.

In the House of Commons on Thursday evening, Mr. Gladstone said that the Government had tried its best to avoid a conflict with the House of Lords on the Franchise Bill,

but should a conflict arise, while he would greatly regret it, he had no doubt of the issue. This statement was received with tremendous cheers, and is considered very significant. Should the Lords reject the bill, the Government will not end the present session of Parliament at once, but will carry several measures before the adjournment for the autumn session.

The Franchise Bill was ordered to a third reading in the House of Commons on Thursday by a unanimous vote.

The fall of Berber is officially confirmed. It was surprised by the rebels at daybreak. May 26, and, after much fighting, Hussein Pasha Kbalifa, Governor of Berber, surrendered. A massacre of the inhabitants followed. The women and children were spared, and a few men escaped.

A report has reached Cairo by way of Wady Halfa that El Mahdi made an attack upon Khartoum recently, and was repulsed with heavy loss.

Tz zedin, the Under Governor of Dongola, arrived at Wady Halfa on Wednesday with twenty men. He reports that Dongola was tranquil.

Earl Granville on Saturday received a despatch from General Gordon, giving assurances of his health and safety. The date of the despatch is unknown.

Mr. Clifford Lloyd, recently Under Secretary of the Interior in Egypt, has written a long letter to the *London Times*, in which he gives a graphic description of the horrors of the Egyptian prisons, the corruption of the Mudirs, and the anti-English intrigues of the officials at Cairo.

The Cobden Club dinner in London on Saturday night was a very successful affair. Lord Carlisle presided. Dr. Smith, of Sioux City, Iowa, was an honored guest of the evening.

In the French Chamber of Deputies on Monday, Prime Minister Ferry opposed the amendment defining the revisable points in the Constitution without binding the Chamber to limit its action to these points, on the ground that the Government proposals for the revision were an essential part of the programme of the Ministry, who would be unable to continue in office if they lacked the confidence of the Chamber. The Chamber then rejected the amendment by a vote of 290 to 235. On Tuesday the Chamber adopted the first clause of the bill for the revision of the Constitution, which affirms the expediency of that action. The Government has practically agreed to an amendment which will make members of former reigning families ineligible to the Presidency.

Prime Minister Ferry stated in the French Chamber of Deputies, on Thursday, that M. Patenotre had been ordered to proceed to Peking and demand satisfaction for the Chinese violation of the treaty. He said, also, that Admiral Courbet had gone northward with the ships under his command to support the French demands. The Chinese Legation assured Prime Minister Ferry that the Chinese Government is entirely innocent of the attack upon the French troops. It is believed France will now demand a heavy indemnity of China.

Despatches from Hanoi, received on Thursday, state that 4,000 Chinese regulars, who were provided with artillery, entrenched themselves at Lang-son, in violation of the treaty, and attacked the French forces on June 23 as they were on the march, killing ten and wounding thirty-three. General Negrier at once set out with reinforcements. General Millot telegraphed that the French troops numbered 700 men and were on their way to Lang-son. Though so greatly outnumbered, they routed the Chinese. The fighting continued for two days. Among those lost by the French were two officers.

A French Cabinet Council was immedi-

ately held, and General Millot was ordered to suspend the departure of the troops from Tonquin.

Hostilities against Lang-son in Tonquin have been resumed by the French. The French Government has decided on vigorous action.

Prince Victor Napoleon has written a letter in explanation of his present position. He says he has profound respect for his father, Prince Jerome Napoleon (Plon Plon), but he was obliged to leave the paternal roof, since he had a right to think for himself. His only line of conduct was the one enjoined by Napoleon I. and Napoleon III. He will maintain intact his great inheritance. He cannot consent to take part in acts contrary to his political opinions, and is resolved to withdraw from all compromising connections. Prince Jerome asserts that Prince Victor has brought odium upon himself as a dishonorable breaker of pledges.

There were eight deaths from cholera at Toulon, France, on Wednesday. Post-mortem examinations seem to prove it Asiatic. There were two deaths from cholera at Marseilles on Friday, and a panic ensued among the inhabitants.

Special reports in regard to the cholera in France give a greater number of deaths than the official returns report, and the truthfulness of the latter is distrusted. The number of victims at Toulon is believed to be eight to ten daily. There were five deaths at Marseilles on Sunday night. Captain Belot, of the navy, was driven to despair when his wife was seized with the cholera, and committed suicide. M. Rochard, Chief of the French Naval Health Department, declares that the cholera was not brought to France by any transport returning with troops from the East.

During a discussion of Germany's colonial policy on Thursday in the Reichstag, Prince Bismarck incidentally said: "I would remind the House that some time ago an outbreak and second war with France were generally expected, and that the inclination therefore existed everywhere. Nevertheless, you must bear witness that I did not allow it to come to pass. The different governments of France since 1870 have maintained confidence in Germany. Our relations with France are as confidential and amicable as with any other country. There exists complete trust in reciprocal treatment and in our mutual honor. I am pleased at having an opportunity for mentioning this fact."

In the Spanish Chamber of Deputies on Monday, Señor Valdosa introduced a bill providing for an improvement of the situation of affairs in Cuba. The principal clauses of the bill proper propose a reduction of the export and an increase of the import duties on sugar, and direct that Spain shall negotiate new treaties of commerce in Cuba's interest with foreign nations. Other clauses effect economies in the Cuban budget, and provide for the conversion of the Cuban debt. In the Senate Señor Cánovas del Castillo, the Prime Minister, stated that Spain had absolutely no intention of selling Cuba. The Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs on the same day held an important interview with Mr. John W. Foster, the American Minister, who has just returned to Spain from Washington. The Spanish Ministers showed a desire to arrive at an equitable commercial arrangement. Mr. Foster assured them that America was animated with amicable views regarding trade with Cuba. He declared that America had no desire to annex Cuba now nor at any future time. He thought, however, that something must be done for Cuba quickly. Mexico was already importing sugar into America free. Unless Cuba and the English West India Islands secured equal terms, it was evident that their best market was lost.

A panic prevails among the Jews in the towns of Western Russia on account of Christian hatred and threats.

TAMMANY IN NATIONAL CONVENTIONS.

It is conceded on all sides that the only obstacle to Cleveland's nomination by the Democrats is the opposition of Tammany Hall. If John Kelly were to say that he is in favor of him and that he would do all in his power to secure his election, the probabilities are that Cleveland would be nominated by acclamation. But Kelly does not say that. On the contrary, he is disseminating as widely as possible his view that Cleveland is a weak candidate, who, if nominated, would not be able to carry New York. He has said this with so much emphasis during the past few days that many Democratic leaders in Washington and elsewhere are afraid he may mean something by it, and Cleveland's strength is said to have been somewhat diminished in consequence.

There is nothing new in this attitude of Tammany. It took the same position in 1876 and again in 1880, and Democrats who remember what the outcome was in those years ought to be able to look upon Kelly's talk with entire indifference now. When Tilden was a candidate in 1876, with an almost solid New York delegation behind him, Kelly went to St. Louis, with the usual special train of 150 "braves," and made a systematic and most persistent effort to defeat Tilden's nomination. He opened a headquarters and hung out a placard with this inscription: "The city of New York, the largest Democratic city in the Union, is uncompromisingly opposed to the nomination of Samuel J. Tilden for the Presidency, because he cannot carry the State of New York." He claimed also that although the New York delegation was instructed to vote as a unit for Tilden, it was in reality about equally divided between him and other candidates, and that seventeen members of it were unalterably opposed to him. He visited the delegations from other States and laid this statement before them. As a final effort, he distributed a circular, signed by nearly 100 New York Democrats, many of them men of high authority in the party, in which protest was made against the "folly of nominating a man who, we are perfectly convinced, cannot carry New York." The list of signers was really a formidable one, including such men as August Belmont, ex-Governor Hoffman, S. S. Cox, Chief-Justice Church, Amasa J. Parker, Horatio Seymour, jr., and J. V. L. Pruyn. A few of the signers are in sympathy with Kelly's present opposition, but he can muster nothing like so impressive an array of disciples now as he had then. When Tilden's name had been put in nomination, Kelly mounted the platform, and amid great confusion announced himself for Hendricks, saying that seventeen of the New York delegates were of the same mind, and that Tilden could not carry the State. The Convention disregarded all these appeals and nominated Tilden. In the election he carried New York State by over 32,000 majority, and New York city by nearly 54,000 majority.

In 1880 much the same programme was followed again. It was not known whether or

not Mr. Tilden would accept a renomination, but an overwhelming majority of the delegates were known to be in his favor. Kelly appeared at the Convention with his special train and his protests, and opposed Tilden vigorously on the old grounds until his letter of withdrawal was read. When General Hancock had been nominated, Kelly was called for, and mounted the platform amid tremendous applause. He assured the Convention that in nominating Hancock they had reunited the gallant Democracy of New York; that after contending for five years he was sure that the anti-Tammany gentlemen of the New York delegation would agree with him that past differences should be buried; that in his opinion whoever made any allusion hereafter to the differences which had existed among the New York Democracy should be branded as a traitor to the party; and concluded by pledging Tammany to do everything in its power to elect the ticket. After him Col. Fellows, as the leader of the anti-Tammany wing of the party, appeared on the platform, when he and Kelly shook hands in the presence of the Convention, while the delegates shouted like mad and the band played "Auld Lang Syne." In November Hancock's majority in New York city was only 41,285, nearly 13,000 less than Tilden's, and Garfield carried the State by a majority over all of nearly 6,000, and a plurality over Hancock of 21,000.

It was charged in 1880 that Kelly "traded off" Hancock in the city, but the figures do not afford convincing evidence of that view. Hancock had 10,000 more votes in the city than the Democratic candidate for Judge of the Court of Appeals, who was voted for at the same time, and 21,000 more than the Democratic candidate for Mayor. The most obvious explanation of the discrepancy between the vote for Hancock and that cast for Tilden is that the latter commanded the support of the Independent voters and business classes generally, while Hancock did not. These two elements are of great importance in the city vote. Kelly's following is also an important element when it is wielded in a solid mass; but to wield it in a mass against a Democratic candidate is an impossibility unless Tammany has a decided grievance upon which to base a revolt. It has no grievance whatever this year, and if Cleveland is the candidate Tammany will be as powerless to defeat him as it was to injure Tilden in 1876.

MR. BLAINE'S VERACITY.

A STRIKING feature of the Blaine investigation of 1876 was the contradiction in testimony between himself and James Mulligan as to the facts of a certain interview which took place the day previous to the giving of the testimony. Mulligan testified that Mr. Blaine came to him at his hotel and asked him (Mulligan) if he had certain private letters of his (Blaine's) to Warren Fisher, to which Mulligan replied that he had; that Blaine asked Mulligan to deliver them to him, which Mulligan refused to do; that Blaine asked what Mulligan intended to do with the letters, and he replied that he intended to

keep them for his own protection; that he had seen a statement in the *Washington Star* that the Blaine party were going to break Mulligan down, and that he intended to publish the letters if his testimony were impeached or impugned; that Mr. Blaine "prayed, almost went on his knees, and implored me to think of his six children and his wife, and said that if the Committee should get hold of this communication it would ruin him forever; . . . that he even contemplated suicide, and asked me if I wanted to see his children left in that state"; also that he asked Mulligan if he would not like to have a consulship abroad, etc. The next day Mr. Blaine denied under oath all of the foregoing testimony, but admitted that he had obtained possession of the letters from Mulligan on a promise or understanding that he would give them back to him, and that he had violated the promise. Several witnesses were examined as to Mulligan's reputation for truth and veracity, and the testimony was unanimous that it was perfectly good. Warren Fisher, who endeavored to shield Mr. Blaine as much as possible, testified: "His (Mulligan's) character is of the best. I would say that it is as good as or perhaps better than that of any man I ever knew." This estimate of Mulligan was corroborated, so far as Mr. Fisher was concerned, by the fact that he (Fisher) intrusted to Mulligan the settlement of his entire business with Mr. Blaine, extending over several years and involving nearly or quite \$200,000 in money and bonds. Even Mr. Blaine, while contradicting Mulligan as to the offer of a consulship, said: "I would not say that Mr. Mulligan falsifies; I do not want to say that at all," implying that Mulligan had merely misunderstood him.

When an issue of veracity is raised between two witnesses to the same subject matter it becomes important to ascertain which of the two is better entitled to belief. If it can be shown that one of them has already been convicted of untruth, the presumption will remain in favor of the other. Some days after the contradictory testimony of Blaine and Mulligan had been given, the letters to Warren Fisher were extorted from Mr. Blaine by overwhelming public opinion, and then it became known that Mr. Blaine had made two glaring misstatements as to essential facts in the case. In a speech delivered in the House of Representatives on the 24th of April, 1876, which he afterward asked permission to embody in his sworn testimony before the Committee, he had stated that the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad derived its life, franchise, and value wholly from the State of Arkansas, and that he (Blaine) bought his bonds at the same rate that others paid, and that he never received any as a gratuity. Both these statements were proved to be false by his own letters to Fisher. We quote the following paragraphs from his speech in the House, which will be found on page 2725 of the *Congressional Record* for that year:

"In common with hundreds of other people in New England and other parts of the country, I bought some of these bonds—not a very large amount—paying for them at pre-

cisely the same rate that others paid. I never heard and do not believe that the Little Rock Company, which I know is controlled by highly honorable men, ever parted with a bond to any person except at the regular price fixed for their sale. The enterprise, though apparently very promising, proved unsuccessful, as so many similar projects did about the same time. I lost a considerable sum of money (over \$20,000) by my investment, and I presume New England made a net loss of \$2,000,000 in completing that road for Arkansas, as she has lost over one hundred millions by similar ventures west and south within the last twelve years. In addition to my investment in the bonds, I united with others in raising some money for the company when it met its first financial troubles. Proceedings are now pending in the United States Circuit Court in Arkansas to which I am a party of record, for the reimbursement of the money so advanced. All the bonds which I ever purchased I continued to hold; and when the company was reorganized in 1874, I exchanged them for stock and bonds in the new concern, which I still own. My whole connection with the road has been open as the day. If there had been anything to conceal about it I should never have touched it. Wherever concealment is desirable, avoidance is advisable, and I do not know any better test to apply to the honor and fairness of a business transaction.

"In the seven intervening years since the Little Rock and Fort Smith bonds were placed on the market, I know few investments that have not been more affected by the legislation of Congress. But this case does not require to be shielded by any such comparisons or citations, for I repeat that the Little Rock Road derived all it had from the State of Arkansas, and not from Congress. It was in the discretion of Congress to give or withhold from the State, but it was solely in the discretion of the State to give or withhold from the Little Rock Railroad Company.

"Third, that instead of receiving bonds of the Little Rock and Fort Smith Road as a gratuity, I never had one except at the regular market price, and that instead of making a large fortune out of that company I have incurred a severe pecuniary loss from my investment in its securities, which I still retain. And out of such affairs as this grows the popular gossip of large fortunes amassed in Congress."

The evidence that the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad did not derive its value wholly from the State of Arkansas, but derived its then existing value from Congress, and especially from Mr. Blaine, is best shown by the following letters to Fisher, taken from the Mulligan budget:

(Personal.)

AUGUSTA, Me., Oct. 4, 1869.

MY DEAR SIR: I spoke to you a short time ago about a point of interest to your railroad company that occurred at the last session of Congress.

It was on the last night of the session, when the bill renewing the land grant to the State of Arkansas for the Little Rock Road was reached, and Julian, of Indiana, Chairman of the Public Lands Committee, and, by right, entitled to the floor, attempted to put on the bill, as an amendment, the Frémont-Ei Paso scheme—a scheme probably well known to Mr. Caldwell. The House was thin and the lobby in the Frémont interest had the thing all set up, and Julian's amendment was likely to prevail if brought to a vote. Roots and the other members from Arkansas who were doing their best for their own bill (to which there seemed to be no objection) were in despair, for it was well known that the Senate was hostile to the Frémont scheme, and if the Arkansas bill had gone back to the Senate with Julian's amendment, the whole

thing would have gone on the table and slept the sleep of death.

In this dilemma Roots came to me to know what on earth he could do under the rules; for he said it was vital to his constituents that the bill should pass. I told him that Julian's amendment was entirely out of order because not germane; but he had not sufficient confidence in his knowledge of the rules to make the point, but he said General Logan was opposed to the Frémont scheme, and would probably make the point. I sent my page to General Logan with the suggestion, and he at once made the point.

I could not do otherwise than sustain it; and so the bill was freed from the mischievous amendment moved by Julian, and at once passed without objection.

At that time I had never seen Mr. Caldwell, but you can tell him that, without knowing it, I did him a great favor.

Sincerely yours, J. G. BLAINE.
W. FISHER, JR., Esq.,
24 India Street, Boston.

AUGUSTA, October 4, 1869.

MY DEAR MR. FISHER: Find enclosed contracts of the parties named in my letter of yesterday. The remaining contracts will be completed as rapidly as circumstances will permit.

I enclose you a part of the *Congressional Globe* of April 9, containing the point to which I referred at some length in my previous letter of to-day.

You will find it of interest to read it over and see what a narrow escape your bill made on that last night of the session. Of course it was my plain duty to make the ruling when the point was once raised. If the Arkansas men had not, however, happened to come to me when at their wits' end and in despair, the bill would undoubtedly have been lost, or at least postponed for a year. I thought the point would interest both you and Caldwell, although occurring before either of you engaged in the enterprise.

I beg you to understand that I thoroughly appreciate the courtesy with which you have treated me in this railroad matter; but your conduct toward me in business matters has always been marked by unbounded liberality in past years, and of course I have naturally come to expect the same of you now. You urge me to make as much as I fairly can out of the arrangement into which we have entered. It is natural that I should do my utmost to this end. I am bothered only by one thing, and that is a definite and expressed arrangement with Mr. Caldwell. I am anxious to acquire the interest he has promised me, but I do not get a definite understanding with him as I have with you.

I shall be in Boston in a few days, and shall then have an opportunity to talk the matter over fully with you. I am disposed to think that whatever I do with Mr. Caldwell must really be done through you. Kind regards to Mrs. Fisher.

Sincerely,
W. F. JR., Esq. J. G. BLAINE.

The evidence that he did not buy his Little Rock and Fort Smith bonds at the same price that others paid for them, that in fact he never bought any, but received a large sum in bonds and cash as a gratuity or commission, was produced in such a variety of ways that neither Mr. Blaine nor any of his apologists ever afterward attempted to deny it. In the first place, Mulligan produced a memorandum book in Blaine's handwriting, showing that he (Blaine) was to receive from Fisher \$130,000 of land-grant bonds, and \$32,500 of first-mortgage bonds, besides \$15,150 in money. Mulligan testified that Blaine did receive all these bonds, except \$30,000, which were still due him, and Blaine in one of his letters spoke of \$20,000 more as due him from Caldwell.

As between Mulligan and Blaine the issue of veracity would seem to be no longer open to doubt.

NEWSPAPER PRIVILEGE.

THE decision of the Massachusetts Supreme Court in the Cowley case will be a surprise to most people in New York, whether lawyers or laymen. The suit was brought to recover damages for the publication of an alleged libel concerning plaintiff in the Boston *Herald*. The alleged libel consisted in publishing a petition for plaintiff's removal from the bar before any action had been taken or hearing had in the matter. At the trial the Court ruled, at the defendants' request, that the article in question was a privileged communication, and ordered a verdict for them. Plaintiff excepted, and the full court has now sustained his exceptions, and holds that a newspaper is not protected in publishing such *ex parte* statements as those contained in the petition for the plaintiff's removal.

The Court says that a newspaper has a right only to make "fair reports" of judicial proceedings. In Massachusetts all proceedings are begun by filing the first paper in court, and the proprietors of the *Herald* undoubtedly supposed that publishing a petition which had been so filed was no more than publishing a report of the opening speech of a lawyer in a jury trial. But the Massachusetts judges say that this is not so.

"It is desirable that the trial of causes should take place under the public eye, not because the controversies of one citizen with another are of public concern, but because it is of the highest moment that those who administer justice should always act under the sense of public responsibility, and that every citizen should be able to satisfy himself with his own eyes as to the mode in which a public duty is performed. If these are not the only grounds upon which fair reports of judicial proceedings are privileged, all will agree that they are not the least important ones. And it is clear that they have no application whatever to the contents of preliminary written statements of a claim or charge. They do not constitute a proceeding in open court. Knowledge of them throws no light upon the administration of justice. Both form and contents depend wholly on the will of a private individual, who may not be even an officer of the court. It would be carrying privilege further than we feel prepared to carry it, to say that by the easy means of entitling and filing it in a cause a sufficient foundation might be laid for scattering any libel broadcast with impunity, and we waive consideration of the tendency of a publication like the present to create prejudice and interfere with a fair trial."

The precise question in this case could hardly arise in New York or any State which has adopted the New York code of procedure; for under this code proceedings are not begun by filing a paper in court, but by serving it upon the defendant. But with such a system the rule of the Massachusetts judges would be still more applicable. If it is libellous to publish a judicial record, it must be still more libellous to publish a paper which is not on record at all, and is not accessible to the public, except by favor of the parties. A complaint or answer, for instance,

in New York is a paper which is not in charge of a court, or of any public officer. It is not, as a rule, until after judgment that the papers in a suit are filed in the clerk's office.

Nevertheless, it is the universal custom of newspapers in this State and elsewhere, to publish abstracts of pleadings in suits likely to be of general interest. They publish them, too, as a matter of business, and the more libellous they are in tone, the more likely they are to get into print. Whether such publication serves any useful purpose (except to the newspaper) may perhaps be doubted; but it is not probable that the practice will be abandoned. The difficulty with the Massachusetts decision is that the distinction between the practice of publishing reports of trials, full as all such reports generally are of scandal and libel, and the publication of a petition or complaint as a matter of news, is not appreciable to the ordinary mind. A jury once convinced that a newspaper had published it without malice would be unlikely to give any substantial damages, and the rule of law would therefore be worthless to the person libelled.

The true limit of newspaper privilege, it seems to us, ought to be set by the circumstances of each case. A petition for the removal of a man from the bar is a matter of such general public interest that it is difficult to understand what the objection to its publication can be. Would it be libellous to publish the fact that such a petition had been filed or served? On the other hand, the publication of an ordinary complaint, say in a divorce suit, might be very outrageous. Practically we presume that this would be the effect of the Massachusetts rule, as interpreted by Massachusetts juries.

THE ANTIQUE PRESS.

PROFESSOR JEBB, of Glasgow, delivered an oration on Thursday at the Phi Beta Kappa meeting at Harvard in which he made some interesting suggestions as to a very old subject—the effect of the Press in producing public opinion. The illustration which he selected—that of General Gordon—is a very striking one. A year ago, he said, Gordon's name was familiar only to a small class of the English-reading public. That it would become in a few short months a talisman for political parties to conjure with, and that the fate of the English Ministry would be believed by millions of people to hang upon his life, was what no one could have anticipated. It is plain, too, that but for the Press, this sudden increase of Gordon's importance would have been utterly impossible. It was the popularization of the facts of his career through countless books, magazines, and newspapers that made him the hero of the hour, and this without any effort on his own part, notoriety being apparently what he cares least about. But for the Press he would have been to-day simply an English envoy in Africa, about whose mission to Khartum the world would have known only what the English Ministry chose to let it know, and this would have probably been very little. But as it is, every fact in his career, every line in his countenance, every hint,

suggestion, or fancy of his friends or enemies as to his mission, its purpose, its means of execution, and its probable result, has been "news." The Press has converted a secret piece of delicate diplomacy, about which little or nothing is known, into what we should call a "live" political issue, through the romantic, sensational interest it has been enabled to throw around the life and person of the man who has undertaken it.

Professor Jebb dwelt principally upon the absence in the antique world of any such machinery. National opinion in it meant originally merely the opinion of the King; and his manifestoes and announcements, if in a certain sense journalistic in character, were, we must say, open to the criticism that they confounded two distinct functions of the Press, now, as an evolutionist would say, entirely differentiated. As an instance of antique journalism Professor Jebb gives the proclamation of that eminent and able monarch, Artakhshatrâ, whom we take to be our old friend Artaxerxes:

"He came up with chariots. He said that he was my first cousin. He lied. I impaled him. I am Artakhshatrâ. I flayed his uncles, his brothers, and his cousins. I am the King, the son of Daryavush. I crucified 2,000 of the principal inhabitants. I am the shining one, the great and the good."

Artakhshatrâ evidently knew nothing of the distinction between the editorial and news departments. The fact that the rival king came up with chariots, stated his alleged relationship, received in reply the lie direct, accompanied by impalement, was at the time obviously news; so was the flaying of his uncles, his brothers, and his cousins. The self-laudatory references designed to attract attention to himself and his father and his shining moral qualities belonged, on the other hand, to the editorial columns. Nowadays the former of these would not be hastily buried in the body of an article, but would appear under proper "news heads," and be published in double-leaded type, considerably expanded, with a few necessary details about the chariots, and the more striking incidents connected with the crucifixion, flaying, and impalement, and other casualties.

We have not space to follow Professor Jebb, as we could wish, through other branches of his interesting comparison, and can only refer to one—that of wit and humor—which, in the antique world, was entirely in the hands of the dramatists or satirists. Aristophanes, for instance, did for the Athenians, not what Harrigan and Hart do for New York, or what Gilbert and Sullivan do for London, so much as what the ubiquitous "funny man" and caricaturist do for us. A thousand papers do for us what one man did for Athens. And then Aristophanes had no news department at all.

It is really—and the fact is often overlooked—the extraordinary development of "news" which gives the Press a large part of the power originally imagined to come from argument or exhortation. What news does for the public is to enable it to watch the progress of a campaign, or a series of political or social events, like spectators at a theatre, and the love of a story or a play is one of the deepest-seated passions in the human heart. People watch Gordon now

for the finale—the fall of the curtain in Egypt or in England—and the fact that they are watching is what enables the countless newspapers that play the part of the antique chorus to publish the drama and get the attention of the audience to their comments at the same time. Artakhshatrâ was forced to resort to much cruder methods.

THE YALE AND HARVARD BOAT RACE.

NEW LONDON, June 26, 1884.

WHEN Mr. Robt. J. Cook stood at the bow of the University boat at the end of the race in 1883 and watched the Harvard eight cross the line many lengths ahead of one of the finest looking crews that ever manned a shell, he smiled with grim satisfaction and declared that the phantom stroke, which for two years had stood between Yale and victory, had been laid at last. The strength of a settled conviction that there was, after all, but one way in which to row a boat enabled Yale veterans at the oar to draw a certain amount of consolation from the overwhelming defeat of last year; for they felt assured that at last any remaining doubts as to the radical defects of the professional stroke would have to give way in the face of such a defeat coming to a crew of "veterans" and "giants" at the hands of rivals who had had scarcely a month of steady practice in the positions at which they rowed the race of that year.

A month's careful coaching of four members of the crew who had enough patriotism and self-denial to give up a part of their vacation to a study of the right principles of rowing under the tuition of Captain Cook on the waters of the Schuylkill, at Philadelphia, opened their eyes to the fact that for two years or more Yale had been gradually slipping away from the high standard of oarsmanship which it had taken so much patience, skill, and money to attain. Shortly after the opening of the fall term last year Mr. Cook attended at New Haven, and continued the lessons which he had begun during the summer. From that time on, and all through the long winter months, the men who had undertaken to train for the crew worked with an energy, faithfulness, and dogged pluck highly to be commended in the face of the defeats of the past and the hard course before them. The result of this year's race may be fairly taken as the legitimate fruit of courageous persistence in the teeth of defeat and as the honest reward of honest work.

At Harvard, on the other hand, the exceptional good luck of two successive years seemed to receive a sudden check. Beginning the year with an almost positive assurance of the ability to pit against their rival seven out of eight of the crew which won so brilliantly in 1883, one piece of misfortune after another happened to interrupt the work of the crew and interfere with the steady progress of preparation for the race of 1884. To begin with, their captain was, early in the season, forced to resign his position and his seat in the boat. Then it was found that Mr. Perkins, the victorious stroke of the preceding year, who succeeded to the captaincy, was too heavy, as he thought, for his old thwart, and moreover that there was no one upon whom he could count with enough confidence to follow him in setting the stroke for the starboard side. At first it was thought that Mr. Curtis, who stroked the eight with such credit in 1881 and 1882, and who, as a member of the law school, was still in the university and eligible for a place in the boat, would come back and pick up an oar once more for the honor of his college; but the renewal of an old strain

which had caused him to withdraw from the boat a year ago forced him once more to give up. The result of the class races furnished what was believed to be a solution of the difficulty in the person of Mr. Bryant, stroke of the senior crew, who carried his men to victory over the other class eights upon the Beacon course with so much dash and energy that he seemed to be a suitable person to set the pace for the university eight. The result of the race with Columbia a week ago, however, proved that the placing of the men in the Harvard boat was still imperfect. The few graduates of Harvard who watched that race saw with dismay a crew of mere lads, whose short preparation had prevented their attaining anything more than mediocre form, come up upon the big fellows from Cambridge at a critical point in the race, not very far from the finish, and hold them manfully up to the last half mile. But for the poor form which the Harvard men displayed in that race, it would have been hard to believe that it had been pulled upon its merits, and that the winners had not purposely allowed their opponents to row them an apparently close contest for the sake of deceiving their more dreaded opponents who watched them so keenly from the Yale launch. Indeed, for a day or two afterward there were not a few of the spectators who claimed that the thing was a walk-over for the Cambridge men, who had cleverly concealed their real strength. Old oars, however, shook their heads at this theory, and insisted that no crew could hold itself in and let another eight come so close to it upon the last few hundred yards of a four-mile race, when the catching of a single "crab" or the slipping of a seat would be enough to reverse in a few seconds so short a lead, and turn victory into defeat. This opinion obtained substantial sanction when two days after the race important changes were made in the Harvard boat. Two men went off the eight and the two substitutes were brought in. But a still more striking change, and one that seemed very hazardous at so late an hour, was decided upon by the Harvard authorities. Stroke and No. 7 were made to change places, Mr. Perkins going back to his old place of a year ago. The wisdom of this rearrangement, dangerous as it seemed, showed itself in the race to-day. Harvard exhibited a remarkable improvement over her form of last week, and it is generally believed that but for this change, unfortunately demanded by the exigencies of the situation, the four lengths that separated the two boats to-day would have been multiplied fourfold.

With New London's usual good luck, the heavy storm cleared away just at the right time, and with the wind blowing down the course and the river running like a mill-race from the rainfall of the preceding forty-eight hours, the Thames was never in better condition for the eights. Mr. William Bradford, of New York, sometime member of the First Trinity eight, of Cambridge, England, and an exponent of the somewhat graceful style of rowing at one time in vogue there, had been agreed upon as referee, and long before the water seemed to the uninitiated smooth enough for racing, his experienced eye told him that the condition of the river was far better than it appeared, and was improving every minute. With commendable foresight, he called the crews promptly into line, and was able to send them off with but little delay. Yale got away the quicker, both crews dashing to their work at thirty-nine strokes to the first minute, and before a quarter of a mile had been rowed the nose of her shell had been pushed twenty feet ahead. At the half mile she had dropped her pace a single stroke, Harvard falling to thirty-seven and passing the flag half a length behind her. For the next

half mile the relative positions of the boats did not change, Yale gaining slightly, perhaps, still rowing at thirty-eight, while Harvard's stroke fell to thirty-five, and the shells shot by the mile flag with Yale almost a length ahead, Harvard following three seconds later. From this point the steady swing of the Cambridge men seemed to tell, and they gradually drew up on the leaders. At the mile and a half post, with a stroke of thirty-four to Yale's thirty-nine, Harvard had won back all but a few feet of her lost ground, and at the two-mile the lead changed and over half way down the course Harvard's nose showed to the front and passed the two-mile flag two seconds or nearly a length ahead, while the wearers of the crimson on the water and aboard the observation train shouted their delight and assured each other that never before in the history of American eight-oared racing had the crew which led at this point been headed at the finish. And their confidence seemed well founded. As Harvard gathered herself and picked up the stroke with something of her old-time dash and vigor, Yale seemed to show a corresponding lack of energy, and for a moment looked like going to pieces. Either from excitement or eel-grass, that nightmare of Yale oarsmen, one of the waist men in the New Haven boat caught a tremendous "crab," and for a moment it seemed as though he had wrenched the outrigger from the side of the shell. But he recovered himself wonderfully, and in the fraction of a second picked up the stroke, and the boat once more moved up on Harvard's quarter, and began to cut down the lead. Before three miles had been rowed the lead had once more changed. As the water grew fresher from the breeze the marked superiority of the Yaleshell showed itself. Harvard was miserably "boated," and while Yale rode high and dry, her nose, the cross-bar on her rudder, and a yard or two of rudder lines alternately dipped below the surface, and at times ploughed the water a foot high. But nothing could have changed the result. The race was over at the end of the third mile, when Yale led by four seconds, rowing at thirty-nine to Harvard's thirty-seven. From this point on the lead was gradually increased. Harvard rowing raggedly for half a mile, but "bracing" for the last half and pulling well. Both eights "picked her up" for a final spurt on the last quarter mile, Yale crossing the finish with a lead of seventeen seconds, or nearly four lengths between her stern and Harvard's bow. The time, 20.31, is by fourteen seconds the best on record.

The race marks an era in college rowing. The day of experiments is over. For the first time in the history of American eight-oared racing the onlooker saw two well-matched crews rowing the same sort of stroke, and the one that rowed it the better won. We may at last look forward each year to a contest where both eights will strive to realize the same ideal in a way that will make the processions of years ago an impossibility.

G. W. G.

THE APPROACH OF ANOTHER CRISIS.

LONDON, June 19.

THE present session, if it has fortunately lacked the stormy "scenes" which marked the sessions of 1881 and 1882, has been full of trouble for the Government. It opened with a resolution of censure on them for their policy in the Sudan; it saw another and more serious peril raised by the debate on the position of General Gordon five or six weeks ago; and now a third struggle seems to lie before them in the vote of censure which the Tory party proposes to move upon the scheme for the settlement of Egypt which

they have been discussing with France, and are to lay before Parliament on Monday next.

For the last eight months, ever since the revolt of the Sudanese showed that English troops could not be immediately withdrawn from Egypt, it has been plain that some new departure must be made. The provisional condition of things was becoming intolerable. The administration of the country, in spite of the presence of English officials, and the beautiful schemes for local self-government which Lord Dufferin had suggested, was going from bad to worse. To effect any substantial improvement, it would have been necessary to displace the native officials and effect a complete reorganization; but this was what the English Government felt bound to abstain from, partly because it would have been inconsistent with their professed desire for self-government by Mohammedans, partly because it would have obliged them to remain in the country for an indefinite time and practically amounted to the establishment of a protectorate. The efforts made to carry out reforms by putting a few Englishmen into places of command broke down when Mr. Clifford Lloyd, after having irritated the native authorities through an energy untempered by discretion, resigned and retired. Meanwhile the Egyptian treasury was becoming surely and steadily depleted. It has to face not only the interest on the debt—a debt out of all proportion to the real wealth of the country—but also the support of the English troops who maintain order in the country, and the payment of the enormous sum awarded as indemnity to those whose property was destroyed at Alexandria after the bombardment of the forts in July, 1882. That sum was grossly in excess of the real losses; still it has been awarded and must be paid. Egypt is practically bankrupt. If she were an independent country she would have to repudiate. But she is not an independent country. She is bound to the payment of the interest on her public debt by international treaty engagements which the courts established under those engagements have authority to enforce against her. And she is, in point of fact, under the control of England, so that whatever she does appears to the world to be done by England.

In this position, the English Ministry have the traditional three courses open to them. One is to retire forthwith, washing their hands of the whole concern. The objections to this line are that it would stultify all the past conduct of England, and would leave the door open for any other Power—that is to say, for France—to walk in. Whether France would walk in is another question; but if a large party in England think and fear that she would, it is almost the same as if it were known that she would. Therefore, hardly any one proposes this line. The second course is boldly to tell the bondholders that they must consent to a reduction of the interest because the country can no longer afford to pay it in full, and to follow out this decided step by taking hold of the administration, pushing native authorities aside so far as may be necessary to introduce sufficient reforms, and letting it be understood that the occupation will continue until the condition of the people and the revenues of the state have been substantially and permanently improved. This is the course which most people in England would prefer, not merely because it wears the appearance of energy and courage, but because it gives some prospect of making our past anxieties and efforts bear useful fruit. The objection to it is that it would overthrow a number of international engagements to which we were parties; would be at variance with pledges the Ministry have given; would excite the jealous hostility of France; would remove to an indefi-

nite distance the prospect of that retirement from the Nile Valley which the Government have always declared—and, we may believe, conscientiously declared—to be the chief aim of their policy.

There remains a third course, or rather group of similar courses, intermediate between these two, which, while differing in minor details, agree in recognizing the diplomatic engagements which regulate Egypt, and in placing England and her occupation of Egypt under the control of the European Powers. This is the course which the Government have decided on. Admitting the rights of the other Powers, they conceived that the requisite financial readjustment could only be effected by a Conference of those Powers. They issued invitations to such a Conference. France, in replying, urged that the Conference must not be limited to finance. This led to an interchange of communications, and it is the provisional agreement, if one may so call it, based on these communications, which Mr. Gladstone has now to lay before Parliament. It is awaited with uneasiness by the Ministerialists, with hope by the Opposition, with eagerness by all parties. Its terms have to some extent oozed out, but as they will be fully before you before this letter can reach America, I need not state what is here believed. It is expected that the debate which the Tory leaders will forthwith demand will follow immediately, so that the decisive vote may be taken within a fortnight from now.

Public opinion, which was excited in London on the subject a fortnight ago, has for the moment become quieter, because every one is in an attitude of expectation. Doubtful as the prospects of the Government are, the impression gains ground that the ship which carries their fortunes, heavily though she has been laboring for the last few months, will weather the storm. The County Franchise Bill has now all but passed the House of Commons, and has been supported on all important divisions by majorities fully sustained in point of size. The Government have bound themselves to bring in next session a Redistribution-of-Seats Bill, and to use every effort to run it promptly through. Thus a prospect is opened up of getting this troublesome question of Parliamentary reform soon disposed of. The Liberals welcome that prospect, because they think it will strengthen them. Even the Tories are not so very averse, because some of them do not fear democratic constituencies, while all of them, fearing an election held on the new franchise with the existing distribution of seats, are glad to believe that redistribution will quickly follow and give them back a good deal of the strength which the Franchise Bill threatens to take away. There is therefore a strong feeling among the Liberals that it will be a pity to lose the whole results of this Parliamentary reform by a defeat of the Ministry, which would involve an immediate dissolution and dropping of the bill. The House of Lords does not like the bill (that so-called democratic Toryism which exerts some influence among Conservatives in the Commons not existing at all in the Upper House), and desires to throw it out. The Government, of course, wish that if it is to perish the onus of rejecting it should rest with the House of Lords, because this will give the Liberal party a good election cry. Hence the game of the Ministry is to send the bill up to the Lords at the earliest possible moment, and obtain a decision there upon it before a vote (which may prove adverse) has been taken on the Egyptian agreement in the House of Commons. And, conversely, the game of the Tories is to bring on the Egyptian debate and division

in the Commons before the second reading of the Franchise Bill in the Upper House arrives, so that if the Government dissolve Parliament they may be forced to dissolve it upon the Egyptian issue, which will be a disagreeable one for them. The problem is complicated by the fact that each party is supreme in one of the Houses. The Ministry may, if they choose, postpone a little the taking of the Egyptian debate in the Commons. Lord Salisbury may postpone, and for a longer time, the taking of the Franchise Bill in the Lords. If he succeeds in deferring it till the Government have either been beaten or saved by a narrow majority in the Commons, his party will reject the bill with much lighter hearts.

Meanwhile the attitude of the Liberal party is one of much discomfort. They avoid speaking about Egypt in public as much as they can, and when they do speak they confine themselves to the safe general reflections that one must not pronounce on the agreement till it is published; that the whole question is a thorny one; that England must at all hazards avoid any appearance of aggression, and adhere to all her international engagements; that the Cabinet is composed of able men, good men, just men; that the Opposition leaders are restless and reckless, are still, in fact, to use the current political slang of 1880, "impenitent Jingo." Lord Salisbury has lately been imprudent enough to make this line of argument easier by delivering a speech in the West of England whose burden was that empires must decay when they cease to grow, and that upon the sword the Empire of Britain must be held. The number of Liberal members of the House of Commons who desire to support Mr. Gladstone if they can, but fear that the terms of the agreement may be too bitter to swallow, is considerable, and when added to the number of those who secretly detest him and seek an occasion for overthrowing him, and to the Parnellite members, equally opposed to every government, makes up a total large enough to turn the scale against the Ministry. Doubtless many of this first class will rally at the last moment to the party banner. But the Cabinet themselves think the position serious, and rely less upon the House of Commons than upon the country. They think that the loyalty of the great towns and of Scotland is unshaken, knowing (what is true) that foreign affairs excite little interest there, and believing (which is more uncertain) that even moderate men of the upper classes will prefer their caution or timidity to the record of an Opposition, which, as it does not prepose any alternative policy in Egypt, can appeal only to its character, and to those very imperialistic principles which were condemned in the more experienced hands of Lord Beaconsfield. Y.

Correspondence.

A BUSINESS VIEW.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It has been strangely reserved for a business man of this city to find the true basis of a rational and patriotic support of Blaine, for which a great many editors and voters, East and West, have been somewhat hysterically groping ever since the Convention. The gentleman in question is, as might be expected, a product of combined Eastern and Western influences, a man of intelligence, education, successful in business, and serious beyond all suspicion in his political and economic views. He is an admirer of Blaine's foreign policy, and wants a President who can "control Congress" and force England to buy our silver; but these arguments, after

all, are but incidental to the main proposition, which is (in substantially his own language) that "a man who has shown that he knows how to make money for himself will know how to make money for his country, and that is what we need in a President."

This simple suggestion, I apprehend, will satisfy the moral and intellectual yearnings not only of the Republicans who are already inclined to support the ticket, but of the dudes and pharisees as well, and we shall owe to a Chicago thinker the unspeakable blessing of a truly harmonious campaign in the interest of our national prosperity.

Very solemnly yours,

MACCABEUS.

CHICAGO, June 27, 1884.

A THIRD PARTY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It is to be expected that party lines will be much broken up by the coming election. If the nomination of Governor Cleveland would draw the votes of many Independents, it could hardly fail, on the other hand, to send many Democrats, particularly among the Irish, over to Blaine. If the Democrats make a worse nomination, a host of "anxious and aimless" will be cast adrift. I have lately attended several Independent meetings, and have noticed, especially among the young men, a strong feeling that neither of the present parties has any distinct principles, and an intense desire for a new party which should stimulate their enthusiasm and their efforts. But I have not heard the faintest suggestion of any practical basis for such a party beyond general appeals to virtue and principle. It would be idle to name a third candidate without any cause for him to represent. No man of weight would accept such a nomination. It would mean failure for the present and nothing at all for the future.

What is the material of which parties are composed? Of course, the people of the country. First, there is a comparatively small number of men of intelligence and culture, of property and leisure, who may be assumed to desire good government and to bestow some thought on the means of obtaining it. Next, there is what I regard as a large majority, composed of professionals, trades-people, farmers, and workmen, sober and industrious, neither very good nor very bad, occupied with getting a living, open to a certain amount of generous sentiment, but with no time or ability to study complex details or abstractions. If a simple question of right or wrong, to be answered with yes or no, was presented to them, or some great leader of proved integrity and ability, they would turn out in solid masses. Failing these they remain stolid and apathetic, disintegrated, and a ready prey for a small force, if compact and under rigid discipline. Then there is a large minority of the idle and dissolute, the restless and discontented, ready to burrah for any bumble, and to follow in mass any demagogue who promises them excitement and perhaps plunder. Now it is this class alone in the country which has any effective organization. The first class are interested in tariff and civil service reform, in finance and foreign immigration, but they differ so much that there may be said to be almost as many opinions as men, and they cannot come to any working agreement. *A fortiori*, therefore, they have no influence over the second class, waiting to be led and ready to respond to good leadership, but as helpless as a flock of sheep running round and round in a circle without any object or purpose. The third class are the constituents of Butler and Blaine, and resemble the same sheep headed by a reso-

lute old ram, and taking the walls and ditches with a rush.

Can anything be more grotesquely absurd than a white plume connected with James G. Blaine? Yet it will play a very effective part in the campaign. Mr. Blaine represents no principles at all. He represents himself. But he has a solid and determined band of henchmen, who are busily engaged in devising stage tricks with a view to playing upon the nation what they have already played upon the Chicago Convention; while the mass of sober citizens stand staring at each other and seeing no choice except between, it may be, Butler and Blaine, with the alternative of an empty name. Human nature has not changed since the rabble of Rome threw up their caps for Caesar, or the factions divided upon red and blue at the Byzantine games. The only change is in the question whether, under representative institutions, the same human nature can be made to work differently.

It is useless to try to make a party upon tariff reform, because nobody can agree as to what is meant by it; it involves no personality, and cannot be represented by popular symbols. But is it equally useless to demand that the tariff shall be taken out of the committee rooms and the clutches of the lobby, and placed in the hands of the chief financial officer of the Government, who shall treat it in public discussion on the floor of Congress, so that by a process of evolution we may arrive at a man competent at once to settle the tariff question and to wear honorably a white plume, and thus combine the efforts of those who desire either element? Is it equally useless to demand that the President, solemnly elected by a whole nation, instead of having a platform made for him by an impersonal and irresponsible committee, and having nothing more to do with the platform or the committee than he has with the succession to the papacy, should make his own platform, and should have some voice, through his chosen officials, in carrying it out, so that the position may become an object of public competition to able and honorable men? The future of the United States must inevitably take one of two roads—the one, old and well worn, leading through anarchy and demagogism to military despotism; the other to the most glorious goal of popular government, strong individual leadership combined with full responsibility to public opinion. Is there nothing in that to form the basis of a third party? G. B.

Boston, June 30, 1884.

THE OBLIGATION OF NEUTRALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In your issue of June 5, under the head of "Notes," I find the following quotation from Bynkerschoek: "The common law of nations does not impose upon a neutral state any obligation to prohibit the agents of a foreign Power which is at war with another foreign Power from enlisting men within its territory." Bynkerschoek was born in 1673, and wrote in 1737, a century and a half ago. Such a statement of the law of nations is not surprising when we take into consideration the time when it was written. But the writer of the note referred to seems to be under the impression that Bynkerschoek's statement is a correct exposition of the law as it stands at the present time, for he follows it with the declaration that it is the "international doctrine accepted by the English Government." We think the writer would not have fallen into greater error had he quoted Bynkerschoek's statement that the use of poisoned weapons was not prohibited by the law of nations,

and added that this was the doctrine recognized at the present time.

In Holland's 'Elements of Jurisprudence' (Oxford, 1882), that writer, in speaking of the duties of neutrals, at page 304, says: "The state is bound to a positive interference with the acts both of its own subjects and of aliens, so as to prevent belligerent acts, or enlistments, or perhaps the equipment of war-ships, taking place within its territory, and generally to prevent its territory from being used as a base of operations by either belligerent." The latest American authority, like the latest English authorities, lays down the rule in the same way. Mr. Wharton, who writes in 1884, says: "It is, however, a breach of neutrality for a neutral sovereign to permit within his domains recruiting by one of the belligerents; and any attempt of a belligerent thus to recruit by enlistment of soldiers should be promptly resisted" (Wharton's Comm. on American Law, §247).

Again, in 'Hall's International Law' (Oxford, 1880), at page 522, the same doctrine is asserted as follows:

"The principle that it is incumbent on the neutral sovereign to prohibit the levy of bodies of men within his dominions for the service of a belligerent, which was gradually becoming authoritative during the eighteenth century, is now fully recognized as the foundation of a duty. . . . It is scarcely an exception from the general prohibition to make levies in a neutral state that a belligerent ship entering a neutral port with a crew reduced from whatever cause to a number less than that necessary to her safe navigation may take on board a sufficient number of men to enable her to reach a port of her own country. In doing this, and no more, she does not become capable of being used as an engine of war, and consequently does nothing which the neutral state is bound to prevent as inconsistent with its neutrality."

If Bynkerschoek's statement of the law on this subject is the doctrine of the English Government at the present time, the latest English writers on the law of nations seem to be strangely ignorant of the fact.

There would seem to be no doubt as to the rule. As to instances in which the English may have permitted the rule to be violated and refused redress, I have only this to say, that England was guilty of a flagrant violation of international obligations, as imposed by the law of nations, in the matter of the *Alabama*; that in that case she emphatically and repeatedly denied that she had violated those obligations, and refused to make reparation. The declarations of her diplomatists in the matter of the *Alabama* were untrue in fact. In the same way the similar declaration of a few of her public men, that the enlistment of troops in London to aid Garibaldi in Italy did not constitute a violation of international law, was untrue in fact. In the one case we had the power to force the matter to a settlement. In the other case the power of the Pope to do the same thing was wanting; but the right was the same and was equally violated.

The foreign enlistment acts are simply affirmations, by the municipal law, of obligations imposed by international law. They point out the manner in which the subjects of the country may be punished who are guilty of the violation of the obligations of neutrality.

The first neutrality act was not adopted until 1794; but in 1793 instructions issued by our Government to the collectors of customs declared "that the original arming and equipping of vessels in the ports of the United States by any of the belligerent parties for military service, offensive or defensive, is deemed unlawful." If it was unlawful, it must have been such because of international and not because of municipal law. Again, Chancellor Kent, in his Commentaries,

vol. i., p. 123, marg., declares: "Congress have repeatedly, by statute, made suitable provision for the support and due observance of similar rules of neutrality, and given sanction to the principle of them, as being founded in the universal law of nations."

The instances cited from Bernard cannot be examined in this article without extending it beyond the proper limits. They do not alter the fact that the law is as stated by Holland, Hall, and all recent writers on this subject.

HENRY WADE ROGERS.

ANN ARBOR, MICH., June, 1884.

[Professor Rogers seems to labor under the singular misapprehension of supposing that in our note on M. Bernard we were expounding the general requirements of international law on the subject of neutrality; whereas we were simply giving the author's account of the traditional policy of the English Government. What we said was that the doctrine of Bynkerschoek, in regard to the obligations of a neutral state, "is the international doctrine accepted by the English Government." The question is simply one of fact as to the usages of the English Government, not at all a question as to the opinions of writers on international law. The writers whom Mr. Rogers quotes are expounding the law as it is now generally accepted; but everybody knows that a particular doctrine of international law is binding only as an "imperfect obligation" upon a nation that has not accepted it. The English Government has not accepted the doctrines quoted; and to refer to those doctrines as proof of the Governmental policy is much like quoting the theories of Professor Sumner and Mr. David A. Wells for the purpose of showing the traditional policy of our own Government on the subject of tariff. M. Bernard distinctly points out the fact that while the English publicists have generally inclined to insist upon a rigid obligation of neutrals, the English Government, on the contrary, has uniformly taken the opposite ground. The question was not, What is international law on the subject? but, What has been the usage of the English Government on the subject? As an answer to this question much of Mr. Rogers's letter seems to us irrelevant.—ED. NATION.]

Notes.

A LIMITED edition of the works of Alexander Hamilton, under the editorship of Henry Cabot Lodge, is in preparation by G. P. Putnam's Sons.

An edition of the complete works of Edgar Allan Poe is announced, by A. J. Armstrong & Co. The edition is to be in six 8vo volumes, from new plates, and will contain Mr. R. H. Stoddard's 'Life of Poe,' and a new essay by him on Poe's genius.

A new illustrated periodical, devoted to the interests of the young people of the Chautauqua Union, is announced by D. Lothrop & Co., Boston. The first number will be issued in July.

The subjects in the current issue of Mr. Foster's *Monthly Reference Lists* are "The Dominion of Canada," from its early settlement to the present time, and "The Administrations of Taylor and Fillmore," being No. 11 of the series on United States History since 1789.

The 'List of Books Published under More Than One Title,' by Mr. J. L. Whitney, of the

Boston Public Library, which was noticed by us on its first publication as deserving to earn for its author the gratitude of all book-buyers, has been published by F. Leypoldt, New York, in a very convenient form, with a preface, an index, and, of course, with additions, for such a list is unfortunately always an increasing one. It now includes upward of nine hundred titles, the notes upon them being in several cases signed with easily-identifiable initials; for those which are unsigned Mr. Whitney presumably holds himself responsible. Acknowledgment is made for the coöperation of others, of whom Mr. Hutcheson, of the Library of Congress, and Mr. Edmonds, of the Mercantile Library at Philadelphia, seem to have been most active. The work of preventing publishers from imposing on the public, however, should be the business of the trade, which ought to protect its own integrity by its accredited organs; for, after all, it is doubtful whether any vigilance on the part of a few men can make the reissue of old books under new names unprofitable, since their report does not necessarily reach any large proportion of the buyers. This consideration does not lessen the thanks due to Mr. Whitney and his associates for their work, which will at any rate tend to discourage this form of imposture.

We have received the Catalogue of the Officers and Students of the venerable Dummer Academy, Byfield, Mass., founded in 1763, which, after a period of decadence, is trying to regain its old rank as one of the principal schools of eastern Massachusetts. The catalogue contains the names, honors, etc., of all the students since the Academy was opened—3,182 in all, under 17 principals. To one familiar with the old family names and local history of the neighboring counties, the list is a very interesting and instructive one, and especially illustrates the usefulness of this institution at the end of the last and beginning of the present century. Within the last year some signs of renewed prosperity have been shown in the way of a few gifts (one of \$10,000), and of repairs, a change in the principalship, etc.; but the funds are, on the modern scale, ridiculously inadequate. In spite of the large number of high schools in the immediate neighborhood, the increase of endowed schools is really a pressing and growing need; and hence it is the more desirable that an Academy with so long and honorable traditions to lend it the charm of age should be placed upon a firm and sound basis.

The Society for Political Education has issued as No. 12 of its Economic Tracts, a well-deserved tribute to its late President, under the title, 'The Work of a Social Teacher, Being a Memorial of Richard L. Dugdale,' by Edward M. Shepherd. This is in every way an admirable sketch of a practical and self-devoted philanthropist, whose career should prove instructive to many whose instincts for good are not less, but whose power of initiative needs strengthening, and whose administrative faculty needs direction.

At a recent meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society much interest was excited by the exhibition of a photographic copy of a colonial map lately discovered by Mr. Henry F. Waters, the London agent of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society. This map locates the settlements at Boston, Charlestown, Dorchester, Roxbury, Salem, etc., the roads between them, the outlying Indian tribes, and even some of the houses of the colonists. It is believed to have been made by Governor Winthrop himself between 1632 and 1635.

The principle of appeal to the Christian consciousness as the main authority for religious truth, established by Schleiermacher in the beginning of this century, which has been slowly

making its way into the thought of America, where it has been accepted in variously modified forms, is applied in a genial and earnest way to the general Church Creed by Mr. Chas. R. Baker, Rector of the Church of the Messiah, Brooklyn, in his 'Apostles' Creed Tested by Experience' (New York: Thomas Whittaker), in which he takes the affirmations of the Creed one by one, and finds that they have their justification and ground in the instinct of the religious soul. Mr. Baker's broad conception of truth and catholic view of the Church is accompanied by devoutness and spiritual fervor. His book will give pleasure to those who wish for the disappearance of sect life, and the establishment of the free, spiritual, catholic Church.

Mr. Henry W. Lucy, the chief of the Parliamentary staff of the London *Daily News*, has just returned from a trip round the world as the special correspondent of that paper. A series of articles descriptive chiefly of his American experiences has already been published in it, and another series, dealing with his travels in the East, is about to appear in the New York Sunday Tribune, under the title "In Elder Worlds." The two will afterward be published in a volume to be called 'East by West.' Mr. Lucy struck out a new route for himself, and since he had opportunities beyond the reach of the ordinary traveller—he succeeded, for instance, in interviewing the reticent exiled Arabi, in Ceylon—his book is likely to be a readable one.

The sixteenth volume of Professor Arber's 'English Scholar's Library' will be of especial interest to Americans. It will contain all the works of Capt. John Smith, now first collected, and will make a book of 1,120 pages with six maps. Professor Arber's address is 1 Montague Road, Birmingham, and the price is 12s. 6d.

The charge made by the Comte de Broglie, in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, that the editors of the Berlin Royal Academy's edition of the 'Political Correspondence of Frederick the Great' have eliminated from that work all passages having reference to Voltaire's political relations with the King, is sharply replied to by them in a card in the *Literarisches Centralblatt*. The registers of the several volumes afford sufficient refutation of the imputation, showing that no less than five out of the ten volumes have something concerning Voltaire. The editors, J. G. Droysen, Max Duncker, and H. von Sybel, state that, where occasion has required omission of anything in the letters having reference to Voltaire, foot-notes have been given, indicating where the matter is fully treated in the Academy's edition of the 'Œuvres de Frédéric le Grand.'

In response to a demand from archaeologists, the essential results, for the interests of archaeological and historical study, of the excavations at Olympia from 1875 to 1881, which have been reported in their progressive stages in "Die Ausgrabungen zu Olympia," have been embodied in a single volume containing thirty-eight folio pages of letter-press and forty plates, under the title 'Die Funde von Olympia' (Berlin, Wasmuth).

—The article of most novelty in the *Century* for July is what purports to be a true account of the origin and history of the Kuklux Klan, written by a clergyman of the Southern Presbyterian Church, who, although not a member of the order, claims to have authentic sources of information. The Klan, according to this narrative, was the creation of a set of idle young fellows in Pulaski, Tenn., who sought amusement and occupation in forming a club of a very old pattern, to wit: one officered by "a Grand Cyclops," "a Grand Magi," "a Grand

Turk," etc., etc., holding its meetings in lonely haunts, having for its serious business the tomfooleries of old-time secret initiations, clothing its members in a grotesque regalia of the "antique and horrible" fashion, and maintaining its interest by virtue of such diversions within itself and of the mystifications concerning it which overspread the public in its neighborhood. These young men, we are told, though unoccupied, were "of good character and good habits," and to this is added the truly surprising intelligence that none were admitted to the Klan who were "addicted to the use of intoxicants." This Klan was founded in June, 1866, and quickly spread over the country; within a year it appeared that the superstitious feelings of the negroes were so affected by it that it could be made an instrument to govern them and to check their white leaders, and for this purpose it was used. The order was now reconstructed: a "Wizard," "Dragon," "Titan," "Giant," etc., became officers; the "Invisible Empire" was subdivided into "realms," "dominions," "provinces," and "dens." But now, unfortunately, "the movement, which had been characterized in the main by prudence and discretion," began to take on a violent and ungovernable character, probably owing to less careful exclusion of men "addicted to the use of intoxicants"; and the consequence was that the attention of the national and State governments was called to it, and the opposition became so vigorous that the chiefs thought best to disband it, and did so early in 1869.

—The substance of this seems to be that a harum-scarum club, accidentally spread over the disorganized Southern States, was found to be an effective vigilance committee ready formed, and was so used. Of the civilization of the country, and of the standards of these "wise and prudent" young men of "good habits," this paper furnishes a very striking illustration, which is made more effective, indeed, by the unconsciousness of its author regarding the way in which men in general will look on such matters. It should be said that an editorial note is added in "Topics of the Times" to express condemnation of the methods of the Kuklux as involving the substitution of irresponsible mob law for organized government, and the constant danger of unchecked brutality, license, and malice on the part of individuals. Other articles of interest are Mr. Escott's eulogistic notice of John Bright, and Mr. Smalley's lucid account of the United States Pension Office and its doings. Of the poetry, the "Choral Ode to the North River" reaches such an extreme ambitious inanity and long drawn-out artifice as to deserve mention. The best of the *Century's* illustrations are, as often happens, by Harry Fenn, who has rarely, if ever, done anything happier than the drawings for the "Scenes of Hawthorne's Romances." The frontispiece, a portrait (from a photograph) of John Bright, suggests the very narrow limitations of the camera for permanent art work, for nothing can be worse than the attitude of the figure in this, or better as an illustration of what nature may be brought to without violation of fact in the way of utter inferiority to the truth which may be given by art.

—Lippincott's for July is a repertory of summer stories, with several travel-sketches by way of relief. Frank Bellevue's "Recollections of Ralph Waldo Emerson" is a somewhat more valet-like sketch than his friends have felt free to give, and belongs to the region of literary gossip; the picture of him urging a plunge in Walden Pond, with the delight of drying off in the sun afterward, and, again, of his running full-speed through a thunder-shower to get an umbrella for his young guest, and the frequency

of his "hearty" laughter, are refreshing just now when we find in most reminiscences of Emerson only the biography of a staid and saintly sage. The anecdote that, had he known his congratulatory letter to Walt Whitman was to be published, he would have "enlarged the *but* very much—enlarged the *but*," is noticeable. The illustrated article, "New Jersey," is principally architectural in interest.

—The ninth volume of Gardiner's 'History of England,' in its revised edition, reaches the middle of 1641, and includes the death of Strafford; while the entire history of the Long Parliament is contained in the last volume of the earlier edition. The space thus gained will, we suppose, be devoted to an index of the entire work. The preface, which is taken almost without change from the original one, would not lead one to expect so considerable changes as have actually been made. The only new points to which attention is called are some extracts from unpublished letters of Wentworth at the time of the First Bishops' War, the assignment, "without any doubt, of the authorship of the petition of the twelve peers to Pym and St. John," and the determination, "in opposition to my former opinion, who were the personages with whom Henrietta Maria held secret interviews in February, 1641"—these persons being Bedford and Pym. The changes, however, seem to have been more than this, and to have consisted largely in expansion; for example, chapters 5 to 9 of vol. I. of 'The Fall of the Monarchy' are now made into seven chapters. As in some of the earlier volumes, we regret the loss of some portions of the original preface: that introducing the volume in question being one of the most interesting of the whole. These two closing volumes, as was rightly said in the preface, are the central events of the long struggle—"If I have judged rightly the first fourteen months of the Long Parliament, I am likely to judge rightly the future course of the parties which then came into collision. If I have erred seriously here, I am not likely to find anything worth saying hereafter." It seems especially a pity to miss the remarks upon the change in public sentiment since the time when he began his labors, "some twenty-two [now twenty-four] years ago":

"Macaulay and Forster were then in possession of the field. The worship of the Puritans was in the ascendant, and to suggest that it was possible to make out a reasonable case for Bacon and Strafford was regarded as eccentric. All this is changed now. Few are to be found to say a good word for Puritanism, and the mistakes of the Long Parliament are revealed with an unsparing hand. A dislike of agitation and disturbance has in some quarters taken the place of a dislike of arbitrary power, whilst reverence for culture has often left little room for reverence for liberty."

—A very interesting portrait of Dr. Johnson and the Thrales is drawn in an unpublished letter of Baretti's which has lately seen the light in the *Nuova Antologia*. It will be remembered that Giuseppe Baretti was the distinguished Secretary of the Royal Academy of Painting, the intimate friend of Johnson, Garrick, and others, and the author of numerous meritorious works, among which were his famous Dictionary and Grammar of the Italian Language. In 1776 he was selected by Thrale to be his guide and companion during a journey which the Thrales, accompanied by Doctor Johnson, contemplated making to France and Italy. Baretti's particular employment, however, was the instruction of that *angelo di bambina*, *la mia Esteruccia*, as he called her, the gifted and charming daughter of his patrons. The journey was unfortunately interfered with by the death of Thrale's only son, but while it was in active preparation Baretti wrote a long and minute letter to one of his

brothers, giving an account of the intending visitors and begging his kinsman to make all possible efforts to render their visit as agreeable as possible. A few details gathered from this letter (written, by the way, in most beautiful Italian, of which Baretti was a veritable master) may not be unwelcome to our readers. Thrale is described as a fine, handsome man, a *gentiluomo a prima vista*, of unrivalled good humor and simple tastes. Mrs. Thrale is wonderfully vivacious, and speaks French and Italian fluently *o bene o male*. Though she, too, is gay and good-humored, she is a huge bigot, easily offended by the least lack of respect for religion and morality; therefore Baretti's brother is urgently besought to have, among other books for the delectation of the visitors, a Latin Bible, for Mme. Thrale understands Latin, too, *molto bene*. Both husband and wife take the greatest delight in agriculture and in—chickens, and the favorite society of the lady when she is in the country is found among her numerous hens, turkeys, geese, and ducks, not to mention an intimate acquaintance with the mysteries of butter and cheese, the administering of potions to the sick *contadini, eccetera, eccetera*. As for "*la mia Esteruccia*," who is only twelve years of age, she is an angel in every respect, and her teacher wishes her "seven thousand times more blessings than he has ever wished to anybody else."

—Doctor Johnson then comes in for a brief but incisive character delineation: he is *un vecchio gigante* both in body and in mind, always abstracted, absent-minded, fierce, punctilious, filthy, full of *brutti vezzi*, continually twisting his torso as he sits ruminating like an ox; in fine, an *animale suino*, possessing more science than any man in the kingdom, feared and respected by all even more than he is loved. He cannot speak a word of French or Italian, though he is an admirable critic of the former and knows almost as much Italian as Baretti himself; but Latin he speaks with the "fury of a Cicero" (this passage has been printed by Custodi, vol. I., p. 81). Baretti would be perfectly happy if only some priest or friar could be found to converse with him in this language with some facility, or throw a sop to Cerberus and quiet his *elefantesco procedere* while the others are amusing themselves. There are several others of these entertaining letters giving episodes in the life of Baretti in London. One of these episodes was the homicidal insertion of a pen-knife into the intestines of a man who had assaulted Baretti in the street, from the consequences of which he was cleared with some difficulty by the testimony of Doctor Johnson and others.

—While French and English playwrights have been letting the public into the secrets of their craft much in the same way as conjurers explain to their audiences the methods of their tricks, a distinguished man of letters in another field has come forward with a serious and admirable discussion of his own special pursuit, and with advice which cannot fail to be really helpful to his younger fellow-workers. Mr. Walter Besant's lecture on "The Art of Fiction" (London: Chatto & Windus), recently delivered at the Royal Institution, is an argument for the recognition of fiction as one of the fine arts, and—this being admitted—an attempt to formulate the rules and laws of its practice as such. He begins by advancing certain propositions which, though not new and not likely to be disputed, have never yet, he says, been so generally received as to form a part of the national mind. They are: "1st. That fiction is an art in every way worthy to be called the sister and the equal of the arts of painting, sculpture, music, and poetry; that is to say, her field is as boundless, her possibilities as vast, her excellences as

worthy of admiration, as may be claimed for any of her sister arts. 2d. That it is an art which, like them, is governed and directed by general laws; and that these laws may be laid down and taught with as much precision and exactness as the laws of harmony, perspective, and proportion. 3d. That, like the other fine arts, fiction is so far removed from the mere mechanical arts, that no laws or rules whatever can teach it to those who have not already been endowed with the natural and necessary gifts." No one in his cultivated audience would be likely, Mr. Besant thought, to refuse to admit the truth of these propositions; but many cultivated people and the whole world at large would be either amused or shocked at the corollaries which spring from them—namely, that Thackeray, if he be considered a master of the art of fiction, is to be placed beside Raphael and Mozart, and that fiction must have its text-books and its position as part of a university curriculum; and further, that distinguished writers of fiction should receive distinctions and national honors similar to those bestowed upon the masters of other arts—to say nothing of the academy in which they might associate themselves.

—The fundamental idea of this part of Mr. Besant's lecture is contained in the following complaint: "In the modern craze which exists for every kind of art—so that we meet everywhere, in every household, amateur actors, painters, etchers, sculptors, modellers, musicians, and singers, all of them serious and earnest in their aims—amateur novelists alone regard their art as one which is learned by intuition." Mr. Besant's argument is based upon the assumption that this is clearly and fatally wrong, and so far as concerns the novelists who write without any adequate educational qualifications, and with whose works the libraries are flooded, he is upon safe ground. Such help and instruction as can be given, and which is of the greatest value to the beginner and full of suggestion to the most experienced, Mr. Besant's lecture contains in a delightful form. The affectionate reverence with which he approaches his art; the pride with which he points out that it is the oldest, the most widespread, the most popular, and the most influential of all, and that its field is nothing less than the whole of humanity; his uncompromising support of conscious moral purpose in fiction, and his discriminating analysis and statement of the rules and principles which should guide those who practise it, will tend to raise the standard of novel writers and novel-readers wherever his lecture is read, and such an elevation of standard is one of the reforms most needed in modern literature. Such work as this lecture and his labors on behalf of the new Society of Authors—of which he writes to the *Times* that "it is our purpose, no less than our hope, to become a great and powerful incorporation"—indicate Mr. Besant as the most appropriate person to be first called P. R. A. F. when the novelist's art has won the national recognition to which he aspires, in a Royal Academy of Fiction.

—It is generally stated, in the history of Parliamentary institutions, that the cities—the "Tiers État"—regularly formed an estate of the realm along with the nobles and the clergy. Their presence, by representatives, is certain; the precise amount of power exercised by them is a matter of dispute. In respect to the Germanic Diet, the question has been lately investigated by P. Brücke, in 'Die Entwicklung der Reichsstandschaft der Städte' (Hamburg, 1881), reviewed by Sohm in the January number of the *Revue Historique*. Brücke shows that before the fifteenth century the delegates from the cities were present at the Diet merely for the purpose of

obtaining information, and with no power to take part in its deliberations or actions: as a rule the resolutions of the Diet were taken exclusively by the Princes and the Lords. In matters which concerned the cities directly, and in which, therefore, they appeared as an immediate party, there was an apparent exception to the rule; but, in fact, these are not deliberations of the Diet as such, but negotiations between the Diet and the cities. According to Brülcke, it was not until the Peace of Westphalia (1648) that the cities came to be fully recognized as an estate of the realm.

—We have received from Prof. Paul Fredericq, of the University of Liège, two collections of theses, the fruit of his method of instruction in history—*Travaux du cours pratique d'histoire nationale*, as they are entitled. Both of these "fascicules" are upon the history of the Netherlands in the sixteenth century, and they contain eight dissertations, besides the general introductions of the editor—one of which, "De l'enseignement supérieur de l'histoire en Belgique," forms a useful companion to his studies upon instruction in history in Germany and France. Of the eight essays, two are by Professor Fredericq himself, being expansions and continuations of previously published essays; these are upon the Calvinistic schools of Ghent, and the renewal of an old treaty of alliance between Flanders and Brabant. This event, taking place in 1578, "may be considered as a timid and abortive preliminary" to that decisive act, the "Union of Utrecht," in the following year. Another paper is by Prof. Eugene Hubert, a former pupil of the school, and author of a valuable work upon the condition of the Protestants in Belgium, which we noticed some months ago (*Nation*, No. 906); this is a chronological list of 114 documents, extending from 1429 to 1566 (the year before the Duke of Alva's appointment as Governor), upon heresies and the Inquisition. The other dissertations are upon the birth of Margaret of Parma; the edicts of the Prince-Bishops of Liège touching heresy; Gerard de Groesbeck, Bishop of Liège during the administration of Don John of Austria; Fray Lorenzo, secret agent of Philip II.; and the Inquisitors of the Netherlands. Most of these subjects, it will be seen, touch directly upon the religious controversies of the sixteenth century.

—The reported discovery of a lost *opus postumum* of Immanuel Kant, which a few months ago went the rounds of the newspapers, has afforded some amusement to those students of the philosopher who had long been aware of the existence of the work. Immediately after Kant's death, in 1804, the announcement of an unpublished manuscript, the work of the last years of his life, was made by his literary executors. It was variously described as "the system of pure philosophy in its entirety," and a treatise on "the transition from metaphysics to physics." Professor Schultz, of Königsberg, whom Kant had declared to be "the best interpreter of my works after myself," was intrusted with its editing, but he advised against its publication; and Wasianski, Kant's former pupil and amanuensis, who for the last fourteen years of his life had been his constant companion, thus recorded his opinion of the work: "The effort which it cost Kant hastened his physical exhaustion. He considered it his most important work, but this judgment was probably in great part due to his weakness." At all events the work, which undoubtedly was planned and written during the period of Kant's physical and intellectual decay, though well known to exist in the possession of a relative of the philosopher, and mentioned in philosophical literature, was never published. Professor Kuno

Fischer, of Heidelberg, in the third edition of his 'History of Modern Philosophy,' published in 1882, spoke of it as justly considered of doubtful value. Some chapters were then being published in the *Altpreussische Monatschrift*, by Professor Reicke, of Königsberg, in whose hands the manuscript had been since 1864. It was reserved to Pastor Krause, of Hamburg, suddenly to petition the Prussian Minister of Worship and Education for the publication, at the public expense, of the "weightiest and most important of all the works of Kant." Upon the Minister's refusal, Herr Krause brought out, at his own expense, an opus entitled "Immanuel Kant for the first time defended against Kuno Fischer in the light of Kant's principal work hitherto considered lost." The gauntlet thus thrown down is now promptly taken up by Professor Fischer. In two extensive articles in the Munich *Allgemeine Zeitung* he goes minutely into the history of the manuscript, fortifying his charges of endless repetition and prolixity by various extracts, and ridiculing, in a very effective manner, the pretentious attempt of Herr Krause to link his name with that of Kant. The work thus dragged to light will probably henceforth take its place in Kant literature, to be discussed and ranked on its own merits; the controversy concerning it is, at its present stage, enjoyable from the raciness of Professor Fischer's style, which recalls the two most famous models of polemical writing in German literature—Lessing's "Anti-Götze," and his letters against Klotz. The resemblance is probably not unintentional on the part of Professor Fischer. Pastor Krause inevitably suggests Pastor Götze, and the relations of Krause to Fischer correspond in some respects closely to those held by Klotz towards Lessing, both culprits having at one period of their lives presented works of their own, with professions of great humility, to the masters who subsequently became their unmerciful judges.

—No European visitor ever left the shores of the United States in a more amiable mood, with pleasanter impressions of the country's condition and anticipations of its future, or with more cordial thankfulness for attentions received, than Prof. Joseph Szabó, of the University of Buda-Pesth, who made a brief scientific tour on this continent in 1882. Nor was it possible for a traveller to make better use of a short time, if we may judge from the mass of interesting and well-digested matter, in great part derived from personal inspection and inquiry, which he laid before the Natural Science Association of the Hungarian capital in two discourses on his tour. They form the forty-first number of the Association's "Collection of Popular Science Lectures." Professor Szabó came as the invited guest of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, to attend its Convention in Montreal; but before going to Canada he had seen Philadelphia, Washington, St. Louis, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Virginia City, Denver, Chicago, and Niagara, and from the Convention he returned to New York via Ottawa, Albany, and Boston. All Professor Szabó's remarks are in a highly sympathetic vein, although he is far from being a blind admirer; and it is pleasant to know that his tribute of admiration, being in a language which is understood by so few natives of this continent, is not meant as incense in return for American hospitality. His intercourse with American scientists is the most warmly remembered feature of his brief stay in this country, and he approvingly cites Sir William Thomson's declaration that he had seen in America much that is indicative of "the truest scientific spirit and devotion, the originality, the inventiveness, the

patient persevering, the thoroughness of work, the appreciativeness, and the generous open-mindedness and sympathy, from which great things of science come." The second lecture comprises outlines of the physical, ethnographical, and intellectual conditions of the United States. An appendix gives a list of all Hungarian works on America—a short list, indeed.

—Hitherto all Italian libraries have been under the control of the Ministry of Education, not a general supervision but one extending down to the minutest details. The natural result of centralization has followed. There has been no initiative, no invention, no progress. At least, that is what one of the librarians who is a warm admirer of American library ideas asserts. But a late law on the higher instruction will release a whole class of libraries from this hampering bondage. The Italian universities are to have full autonomy, and their museums, and cabinets, and libraries will be given into their own charge. The University councils can appoint the officials, make the regulations, and decide on the character of the catalogues and other helps offered to those who use the library. The result will be worth watching. It may be doubted whether an academic council is any better fitted to carry on a library than a Minister of Education. The library staff may find itself as much hampered by a body of men near at hand as by a single autocrat at the capital. It is a mistake to put libraries under a Minister of Education, unless, indeed, there be a special bureau of libraries with considerable independence; it would be an equal mistake for an educational body to take the detailed control of a single library. Perhaps this will not be done in Italy. The University Senate will probably delegate its powers in this matter to a library council, of which at least the chiefs of the library staff will be members. Then it will remain to be seen what effect the change will have on the life of the libraries. Centralization is an evil chiefly because the man at the centre so often lacks the capacity to select the best men to serve under him, and to call forth their enthusiasm and inventiveness, and does not know how to give their individuality free scope while directing it to one general end. Entire absence of central control, on the other hand, may prevent coöperation by destroying all uniformity of process and even leading to great diversity of aim; and while it forces one library which falls into good hands, may let others drop far in the rear. The immediate future of the emancipated Italian libraries will, therefore, depend entirely upon the character of those who have them in charge; but if a few enthusiasts who have been preaching reform to the brethren for some years past are able to imbue them with a little of their own feeling, the ultimate result may be a spirit of friendly competition such as we see in this country, which will find opportunity of action in the new liberty.

—"The Redwoods of California" is the title of a brochure issued by the California Redwood Company of San Francisco and this city. The subject is an interesting one for many reasons. The redwood forest, which stretches in a narrow interrupted belt along the California coast from the Bay of Monterey to the borders of Oregon, is one of the most wonderful developments of plant life known to men. The redwood tree itself, with its still more wonderful relative, the great *Sequoia* of the Sierra Nevada, is the representative of a peculiar type once widely spread through the northern hemisphere, and now confined exclusively to the western rim of this continent. In individual stature the redwood among trees only yields to its Sierra relative and to some of the Australian *Eucalypti*; while, considered as a mass of timber

the redwood forest far surpasses any other in the amount of material it contains to the square mile. This great body of easily-worked and durable timber, generally accessible from the numerous small harbors of the California coast, has played an important part in the development and growth of the Pacific States. China, Australia, Northern Mexico, the Pacific States of South America, and the Islands of the Pacific draw from it their best and nearest supplies of soft lumber. These forests should long supply the whole region west of the Rocky Mountains with building material, and replace to a considerable extent the lessening white pine of the East along the Atlantic seaboard and in the prairie States. The redwood forests, however, in spite of their almost incredible resources, their vigor of growth, and powers of reproduction, are fast going the way of all American forests. Not a small portion of the most easily reached trees have already perished, and before the children now in the schools of California have passed middle life the redwood forests, under existing systems of management, will, as important sources of lumber supply, have disappeared forever.

—It is a suggestive fact that, of the ten instructive photographs which illustrate the 'Redwoods of California,' nine represent more or less directly the destruction of these forests, or various contrivances for their destruction. Not less suggestive is the statement here made that—

"Not only is every available appliance used for getting out timber in the quickest and easiest manner, but the brand is frequently applied for the purpose of clearing away the rubbish and dense tangled undergrowth which would render logging well-nigh impossible. While these brush fires do not affect the timber (for it is practically fire-proof), they must retard the growth of seedlings, and injure, if not kill outright, the tender shoots just putting up from the ground. Little or no effort is made to preserve the trees too small for present use—trees of one, two, or three feet diameter. If they stand in the way, clear them out; if they happen to be crushed under a falling tree, no matter—there are enough and to spare for present needs."

The redwood forests are doomed, just as surely as the white-pine forests of the East are doomed. When they have perished, the United States will have lost the greatest and most valuable supply of building material with which any country has been blessed. There is a good deal of suggestive and instructive reading in this little publication of the California Redwood Company, for any one interested in the forests of the country and their productive capacity. The information it conveys is generally accurate, although, as is usually the case in such publications, the estimates of amounts of standing timber will probably be found considerably too large. The estimates of redwood available for use made by the Census Office, although somewhat distasteful to the Californian spirit of exaggeration, are probably more nearly correct.

—Medical books that vary in design as well as in excellence find their way to our table. Of the purer professional type, for instance, are two well-printed companion octavos, one 'A Year-Book of Therapeutics,' the other of 'Surgery' (G. P. Putnam's Sons), each for 1883, compiled by Drs. Amidon and Knight respectively. These are admirable summaries of the work done and the progress made in those branches of medical science last year. 'What is to be Done: An Emergency Hand-Book' (Boston: Lee & Shepard), seems not worth the shelf-room that even its small bulk would require. 'Catarrh, Sore Throat, and Hoarseness,' by Dr. J. M. W. Kitchen (G. P. Putnam's Sons), is a popular talk upon those affections from the standpoint of a specialist who would warn the

public against empirics. The teaching is correct, but the illustrations of laryngoscopic apparatus detract a little from the tone. In other words, there is a suggestion *ad captandum vulgus*. 'Female Hygiene and Female Diseases' (Lancaster, Pa.: The Lancaster Publishing Co.), we take to be an ingenious advertisement of the author that probably falls within the lines of medical ethics, but is neither entertaining nor profitable to the community at large. In 'Brain Exhaustion' (D. Appleton & Co.), Dr. J. L. Corning discusses an important and complicated problem. Because it is important, and is treated seriously by one who has "views," and, better, some experience, it deserves consideration by those interested in such studies. But the following sentence (p. 149) is an indication that a certain amount of chaff must be winnowed: "Universities should not, as a rule, be harbingers of intellectual exotics; but rather from out their portals should go a savor of a kind to season the mentality of a whole nation."

—The recent legislation that requires the elements of physiology and hygiene, with particular reference to the influence upon man of alcohol and narcotics, to be taught in the public schools of New York, has led to the preparation of new text-books having these topics in especial view. Two such are 'Hygienic Physiology Abridged,' by J. D. Steele (A. S. Barnes & Co.), and 'Lessons on the Human Body,' by Orestes M. Brands (Leach, Shewell & Sanborn). The latter shows want of care, or possibly of special knowledge. For instance, the normal adult pulse-rate is given (p. 89) as 60; pressure on the carotid, it is said (p. 84), will cause death by apoplexy; the artery supplying blood to the stomach is called the coronary (p. 52). It hardly seems worth while to burden children with the names of blood vessels, but if it is attempted they should at least be taught correctly. There are other lapses from absolute accuracy, and the arrangement is rather uninviting. Mr. Steele's little volume is attractive in style and is well arranged, and its teaching in the main is correct. The only marked error we have noticed is "a light will vitiate as much air as a dozen persons" (p. 57). In fact, gas requires about 5,000 feet of fresh air per burner an hour, unless the products of combustion are specially carried off; but this is not true of candles or of oil, light for light. If the somewhat sensational frontispiece is excepted, nearly all the illustrations are excellent, and are real aids. A junior scholar who masters this 'Abridgment' will have a valuable stock of elementary physiological knowledge.

—But the special object of both books is to set forth the influence of alcohol upon the human body. It is too often the case, in enthusiastic advocacy, that a strong cause is weakened by the introduction of untenable claims. Now, while the physical and moral evils that follow the excessive, or, indeed, the ordinary use of alcohol, can hardly be exaggerated, it is certain that neither author has stated the case in the most impartial, which is to say the most effective, way. A sufficiently strong indictment can at any time be drawn against this most harmful agent, without resorting to any doubtful charge. Mr. Brands defines a food (p. 209) to be that which makes good the waste of bodily particles, and then (p. 210) denies that quality to alcohol because it contains no nitrogen. But neither does starch, sugar, fat, or water contain nitrogen. It is still an open question how far alcohol is an alimentary principle, although there is no question whatever that it is a most pernicious agent as commonly used; and the affirmatives of both these positions are perfectly reconcilable without recourse to such reasoning, if it is rea-

soning, as that first cited. Again, speaking of surgical operations upon habitual drinkers, he says (p. 208): "They can never undergo even the most trifling operation with the security of the temperate. They almost invariably die under it." (Our italics.) Now, a generalization like that will lead a thinking child, who constantly sees that it is untrue, to doubt the truth of the other statements that he cannot directly test. So Steele (p. 108), after referring to the coagulation of pepsin and albumen by alcohol, remarks that "anything that interferes with nature's plan of getting our food ready for our use must be injurious." Here is a *suppression veri* that, when exposed, reacts upon the author and upon the doctrine. It is probable that alcohol, judiciously used, checks retrograde metamorphosis of the tissues, and it is also probable that it may assist some forms of imperfect digestion. An impartial presentation of the subject should recognize these probabilities. But, as a whole, alcohol is a vile fountain of unnumbered woes; and the more completely its hidden and far-reaching sources of ruin are exposed and appreciated, the sooner will come the physical and the moral redemption of the world.

—The death of Giovanni Prati removes a picturesque and remarkable figure from the arena of Italian poetry and politics. Born just seventy years ago at Dascendo, Prati, like so many other poets, began his career with the study of law, though "forensic disciplines" had no power to attract and bind him permanently. His youth abounded in strange vicissitudes and fantastic adventures, like that of so many illustrious Italians who came into the world on the eve of the preparations for the national revival. His "Eumenegarda," his "Canti lirici," his sonnets, ballads, and "Nuovi Canti" appeared at a time when Italy was inundated with imitators of Manzoni; their shrill and slender reed strains piped on every hill, and the air vibrated with the echoes of a new and, as it proved, ultimately innocuous *batracho machia*. Prati, however, had little in common with Manzoni or the "Manzoniani," except that both started in the spirit of the Romantic school. Prati, it has been epigrammatically said, though he was born a "romantic" for the generation of 1840, died a "classico" for the generation of 1884. There are whisperings of Byron in his "Rodolfo," "Ariberto," and "Armando," whisperings of Heine in his "Satan and the Graces"; but as old age gathered about him he became enamored of classical studies and left behind him, in his "Psyche and Isis," many beautiful notes of his studies in this field. Though he was not strictly a political poet, he dreamt dreams and had presages of what was about to happen in his native land, chief among which is his poetic prediction of the glorious destinies that awaited the dynasty of Savoy. His deep, reverent, and constant affection for Victor Emanuel was one of the leading characteristics of his life. Prati shared with Manzoni and Verdi the honorary dignity of Senator, conferred by a grateful country on her distinguished literary and artistic representatives. His happy, affluent, and honored life—the early storms passed—gives the lie anew to the "legend of the unfortunate poet in these times of Poets-Senators of the Realm."

HAWEIS'S MUSICAL MEMORIES.

My Musical Memories. By H. R. Haweis. Funk & Wagnalls. 1884. Pp. 283.

A PERUSAL of the latest work by the author of 'Music and Morals' and 'American Humorists' leads to the conviction that he has, in the present case, chosen his title with less reference to strict accuracy than to the prevailing mania for

alliterative titles and headlines, as was to be expected of so great an admirer of Wagner as Mr. Haweis professes to be. The first fifty pages are concerned with his early life and recollections, but even here he confesses that he regards his own doings only as the peg on which he has chosen to hang his thoughts. A few of the biographical facts confided to the reader are that he was a very weakly child and not expected to live; that he was a prodigy on the violin, and, before his theological career, frequently appeared in public; that at one time in his life he wrote quantities of dismal poetry and inflated essays; and that he made a sacrifice and no longer played "to any real purpose" when he entered the Church, which he did not wish to do in the character of "a fiddling parson." It must be confessed that this would have appeared an incongruous combination, even to those who consider art as sacred as religion. A clergyman at a stately organ, or even with a doleful violoncello between his knees, may be an edifying spectacle; but the wild and frantic gesticulations of a fiddler could only be properly associated with Talmage.

Violinists will find a number of useful hints in Mr. Haweis's account of his experiences with his teachers, and in the chapter on "Old Violins." A strong protest is uttered against the practice of giving to beginners small instruments, thus accustoming them to intervals which it is very difficult subsequently to unlearn. At seven or eight a child can stretch most of the ordinary intervals on a regular violin, and fatigue is not to be considered; for, according to Joachim, one of the most important things is the art to make the fingers ache. "With some abominable torture passages," says the author, "invented for me by that morose Pole, Lapinski, I took a vicious pleasure in making my fingers ache, and an intense delight in discovering the magical effects of the torture upon my execution." The personality of a teacher, he thinks, has much to do with the success of a pupil, who can learn more in a week from one who is sympathetic than from another, equally good, in a month. As every musician seems to regard the kind of instrument he has chosen as the queen of all instruments, Mr. Haweis takes pains to point out the special advantages of the violin: "It possesses *accent*, combined with *sustained and modified tone*. The piano has *accent*, but little *sustained* and no *modified tone*; the organ has *accent*, and *sustained* but only in a very imperfect sense *modified tone*; the violin possesses in *perfection* all three," and is "equal to the human voice in *sensibility* and *expression*, and far superior to it in *compass*, *execution*, *variety*, and *durability*." Darwin says somewhere that the brain of an ant is one of the most marvellous atoms of matter in nature. Among the works of human skill and ingenuity, an old Italian violin occupies perhaps a corresponding place. It is "as light as a feather and as strong as a horse," and is made up of three or four score pieces of wood, so closely joined that a microscope is sometimes required to discover the seams. Hard and soft wood of different kinds was used, and the old makers knew by experience precisely what were the acoustic qualities of each piece selected. Rare specimens of wood were especially treasured, and by a certain stain the same pine-beam may be discovered not only in the violins of one but of several artisan-artists. At the present day a regular trade has sprung up in spurious old violins, but a connoisseur is not easily deceived, for he judges by the eye as well as the ear:

"At first all fiddle-heads look alike, as do all pug dogs or all negroes; and, indeed, England, Wales, Italy, Holland, and most other countries have their general faces. So have violins, but

a practised eye sees the difference at a glance. Look for half an hour every day at a late Joseph Guarnerius, an early Nicholas Amati, and a grand-pattern Stradivarius, and you will be surprised that you could ever have confounded their forms. What is called the 'throwing' of the scroll betrays the master's style like handwriting, and he lays down his type in every curve, groove, and outline. . . . These subtleties are like the painter's touch: they can hardly be imitated so as to deceive one who has mastered the individual work of the great makers."

A chapter on Paganini appropriately follows that on old violins. This instrument had reached the height of its development long before Paganini appeared; but he was the first to reveal all its possibilities. The professors themselves stood with their mouths wide open at his extraordinary powers of execution, which no one since has equalled. It is now well known wherein lay the secret of some of his tricks—in the use of harmonics both open and stopped; in altering the manner of tuning his violin; in the way of plucking the strings and producing guitar-like accompaniments; and in the diabolic elasticity of his fingers and his bow. It is doubtful if Paganini could produce the same effect on musicians of the present day as he did on his contemporaries. Many of his tricks were mere clap-trap, calculated to astonish rather than to give genuine æsthetic pleasure; and his own compositions, which he played almost exclusively, are commonplace in everything except difficulty of execution. Nevertheless, the charm exercised by him was immense, as may be seen, for instance, by the impulse he gave Liszt to develop in a similar manner the resources of the piano. In this he succeeded, although it is a great injustice to Chopin to say, as Mr. Haweis does in a chapter on Liszt, that the latter created the modern piano-forte school. This essay on Liszt is apparently made up of literary "memories" based on a perusal of Ramann's biography, to which, however, no reference is made.

About one-half of Mr. Haweis's musical memories seem to be associated with Richard Wagner and his Bayreuth dramas. The Nibelung Tetralogy and "Parsifal" are described in an interesting and intelligent manner, the analyses being interspersed with gossip about the Bayreuth festivals. The account of "Parsifal" is particularly full and readable, and skeleton outlines of the four Nibelung dramas are appended, which contain all the essential features of the plots in the fewest possible words. A good word is spoken for "Rienzi," which, although vastly inferior to the later works, yet, in Mr. Haweis's opinion, "compares favorably in pure melody and sensational effects with any of the current operas." It is a work that would seem especially adapted for such a vast structure as our Metropolitan Opera House, where it ought to receive a trial next season. Mr. Haweis is one of the clearest and most convincing of writers on Wagner, and he fully deserved, for his disinterested labors, the embrace of the composer, who once saluted him on both cheeks in the orthodox continental style and exclaimed, "Ach, mein lieber Herr Haweis, was haben sie denn schön über mich geschrieben!" ("Oh, my dear Mr. Haweis, how beautifully you have written about me.") He shows in eloquent style how the function of the Greek chorus is in Wagner's dramas assumed by the orchestra. This and all the other essential points of Wagner's theory are made so clear that the laziest readers can understand them without difficulty. In one point our author contradicts himself. On page 144 we are told that it is Beethoven's glory to have carried the art of music to its extreme limits of development; whereas on p. 269 we read that Wagner "marks firmly and broadly enough the greatest stride in musical develop-

ment made since Beethoven." The latter opinion is the correct one. Music has made much progress since Beethoven, who has been surpassed in the art of instrumentation by Wagner and Berlioz; in naturalness of general form by the great romanticists; in melody by Schubert and Chopin; and, especially, in freedom of modulation and dramatic definiteness by Wagner and Chopin, the two most unique and original musical minds since Bach.

Wagner's personal character is placed in a favorable light by Mr. Haweis, who points out many of those little traits that showed his kind-heartedness toward all who did not deliberately and persistently insult him *more Germanico*. Among these traits were his love of animals and of nature, and the practical jokes and eccentricities by which he occasionally gave proof of that perennial childhood which, according to Schopenhauer, is inseparable from true genius. The account of Wagner's last days is, in its simplicity, as touching as any chapter by a great novelist; and nothing is more so than the words of the late master's gondolier, who exclaimed: "Ah, to think that only yesterday I rowed him in this gondola—the good, noble, great man, who never said an unkind word to any of us, although he was so ill!" Those who are continually talking about Wagner's egotism are advised to read p. 177, where Mr. Haweis, with much humor, explains how the world, after allowing Wagner for a score of years and more to believe in himself all alone, finally came to tell him that he was one of the greatest musicians that ever lived:

"'Bah!' says Wagner, 'I told you that forty years ago; I can do without you now!' 'Oh, lie! what a vain man!' says your offended aristocrat. I never thought Richard Wagner vain. I knew him to be irritable—so are other people, who only resemble him in that. I knew him to be impatient of interruption—so is your banking clerk when stopped in the middle of a column of figures. I knew him to be proud—so are many who have nothing to be proud of. And from the first moment that I heard—now twenty years ago—the prelude to 'Lohengrin,' and read a few of his letters on art, I also knew Richard Wagner to be the greatest composer and the most impressive art-personality then in the world."

Twenty years ago most of Mr. Haweis's countrymen considered Wagner a charlatan, and said so in very plain language. The very same journals—the leading newspapers—that then could hardly find terms bitter enough to express their scorn, are to-day devoting column after column to description and praise of his works. Mr. Haweis could have made a very piquant and funny chapter, if he had added some selections from these journals of twenty years ago and of to-day, printed in parallel columns.

It was to be expected that the author of "Music and Morals" would take this opportunity of favoring the world with a new essay on the relations between music and our spiritual life. The second chapter is headed "Hearing Music," and begins with a discussion of the question, "Would you rather be blind or deaf?" A musician would naturally decide in favor of the ear, as does Mr. Haweis. But he does not seem to be aware that a century ago even Kant, who knew nothing about music, voted the same way: "We see many blind people," he says in his "Anthropologie," "who are talkative, social, and gay at table; but a person who has lost his hearing you will hardly ever find otherwise than morose, suspicious, and discontented in company: he sees in the faces of his companions the expression of all sorts of feelings, or at least interests, and vainly torments himself with attempts to guess their meaning, and is, therefore, in the midst of company, condemned to solitude." If we go to the root of

the matter, the reason of this phenomenon will probably be found to lie in this—that the greatest plague in the world is *ennui*, and *ennui* is simply the absence of emotion. We can see many things without an emotion, but what we hear is almost always accompanied by a distinct undertone of feeling. A recent writer bids us to "reflect upon the various ways in which a man who hears an astounding statement can exclaim 'Indeed!'—the horror, incredulity, sarcasm, indifference, the multiplicity of meanings, in short, that may be suggested by that one exclamation." It is in such emotional elements in language that music had its origin, according to Herbert Spencer; and although Darwin insists, on the contrary, that music preceded language, this disputed question of origin does not affect the existence in modern speech of those musical elements in language which lend the chief interest to conversation. They enable the hearer, as Spencer remarks, "not only to understand the state of mind they accompany, but to partake of that state. In short, they are the chief media of sympathy, . . . the basis of all the higher affections." In the chapter now under consideration, Mr. Haws takes up a special branch of this general question, which, if not new, as he imagines, is at least treated in a novel fashion by him. He insists that "want of interest and excitement, stagnation of the emotional life, or the fatigue of overwrought emotion lies at the root of half the ill-health of our young men and women." Music, he thinks, can break up that stagnation, and a plea is made, accordingly, for a new vocation—that of a Musical Healer: a fair young maiden, say, who might convert an ornamental accomplishment into a useful art by visiting all sorts of nervous patients and refreshing them with music, the emotional character of which is carefully considered and adjusted to each special case. Mr. Haws has great faith in "music as a therapeutic," and exclaims rapturously that "the future mission of music for the million is the Discipline of the Emotions." On this subject he becomes eloquent, and gives interesting details which we must leave the reader to find in the book itself, which may be bought for a trifle, and should be in the hands of every one who cares for the divine art.

THE RIVER CONGO.

The River Congo, from its Mouth to Bôlôbô; with a general Description of the Natural History and Anthropology of its Western Basin. By H. H. Johnston. With three etchings and over seventy other illustrations, and two maps of the Congo, etc., by the author. Second edition. London: S. Low; New York: Scribner & Welford. 1884. 8vo, pp. xvii.-470.

THE work of Stanley and the International Association in opening Central Africa to civilization within the past five years can best be shown by way of contrast. When he finished his adventurous voyage down the Congo in 1877 the furthest European station was only eighty miles from the sea. Above that point the river was practically unknown and inaccessible from the hostility of the natives. Now, according to this latest account, "there is a distance of over 700 miles secured to civilization, and offering no greater risks to the traveller than those attributable to the elements, or to the ordinary contrarieties of tropical rivers." Beyond the furthest station at that time there are now two small towns and over thirty trading-stations, while three steamers and a small fleet of lighters and canoes ply on the waters of the upper river. "There was not a single missionary on the Congo before 1879. Now there are three flourishing

missions, the Livingstone, the Baptist, and the Roman Catholic, with many stations between Stanley Pool and the sea." The work has been accomplished chiefly by peaceful means, and in these regions, so recently filled with natives bitterly hostile to the white man, Stanley is looked up to as the "great umpire," while "the native chiefs are his active coadjutors."

Mr. Johnston's experience in his voyage of 500 miles or more up the river fully bears out this statement in regard to the changed attitude of the people. Though accompanied by only three attendants besides his porters while on the upper river, he was not only unmolested, but everywhere, save in two instances, was welcomed with unmistakable sincerity. While he has no thrilling adventures to narrate, nor even an accident more important than the blowing down of his tent in a storm, yet his graphic descriptions of life upon the river are full of interest. He is a close and careful observer of nature, and hence his contributions to our scanty knowledge of the fauna of that region give his book a considerable scientific value. If we are not mistaken, his is the first account by a naturalist of this river above Stanley Pool.

The Congo differs from other great African rivers in that it has no delta, though there are indications that it is gradually forcing its way to the sea to the north of its present outlet. At its mouth is Banana Point, a flourishing settlement, "where space is as valuable as in some civilized cities." Of the three factories established here, "that belonging to the Dutch Company is by far the largest and most important," employing about forty whites and three or four hundred blacks. The most valuable among the natives come from Sierra Leone and the Liberian coast, and are engaged for fixed times. The others are from the interior, and in most cases, we gather from Mr. Johnston's somewhat guarded statements, are slaves under the guise of apprentices.

"If a native in these countries steals from a white man he is compelled to become his slave, unless his people are prepared to pay a large indemnity. Naturally, in nine cases out of ten, they do not care to do so, so the unhappy 'nigger' who has been caught stealing a handful of tobacco or a piece of cloth (perhaps spread out as a bait) becomes the slave of the white man he has robbed."

In addition to this means of obtaining cheap labor, the native chiefs "apprentice or sell their superfluous subjects for an important consideration in gin, cloth, or guns." It should be added that these laborers are kindly treated, and often have their wives and children with them.

The banks of the lower Congo offer a rich hunting ground for the naturalist, the magnificent vegetable growth of the forest and the mangrove swamps being the home of innumerable birds, insects, and flowers. An orchid, which grows in groups of forty or fifty together, "shoots up often to the height of six feet from the ground, bearing such a head of red-mauve, golden-centred blossoms as scarcely any flower in the world can equal for beauty and delicacy of form." Large game, with the exception of a few antelopes, is rarely to be found near the river, and the villages are very few in number. Crocodiles, however, are numerous and very dangerous. At Vivi, 120 miles from the mouth, the head of navigation, the river bursts through the hills which separate the central table-land of Africa from the coast. Mr. Johnston reached this place, which is the first important station of the International Association, just as Stanley was holding a "palaver of honor" with some neighboring chiefs, who had come to welcome him back after his visit to Europe in 1882:

"Here he was, seated on his camp chair, his pipe in his mouth, and a semicircle of grinning

kinglets squatting in front of him, some of them smoking long-stemmed, little-bowled pipes in complacent silence, and others putting many questions to 'Bula Matade' ('The Rock Breaker,' Stanley's Congo name) as to his recent journey to Europe, and receiving his replies with expressions of incredulous wonder, tapping their open mouths with their hands."

Station life at Vivi is pictured in attractive and apparently truthful colors. The white settlement crowns the summit of a high hill, from which there is a beautiful view of the river, and just below is the "scrupulously clean" native town, with several hundred inhabitants, some of whose compounds "are really very pretty and bright, with their tiny plantations and flocks of chickens and Muscovy ducks." It seems rather singular, in a land of such wonderful fertility, that the greatest obstacle with which Stanley has to contend is the scarcity of food. This arises from the fact that the natives raise only just enough to supply their own wants. Accordingly, laying out gardens and planting manioc and bananas precedes house building in establishing new stations. Mr. Johnston calls attention to the curious fact that the cultivated plants of this region "should in a great measure be introductions from America." The pineapple has spread along the trade routes far into the interior simply through the rooting of the top leaves, which are thrown away by the natives after the fruit is eaten. In some places they formed "an almost impenetrable hedge on each side of the narrow path," and for the time were the chief food of the natives and their domestic animals.

Stanley Pool is about 236 miles from Vivi, and for two-thirds of the distance the river is unnavigable on account of the rapids. This part of the journey has therefore to be done on foot. The traveller's party consisted of himself, sixteen native porters, and three Zanzibaris lent him by Mr. Stanley, who appears to have taken a warm interest in the plans of the young naturalist. Of these men he speaks in the highest terms, and it is evident that at the end of the journey a strong attachment subsisted between them. They "were to me more than servants: they were friends and confidants, who . . . watched over my interests, never robbed me of a penny's worth nor told me an untruth." A large proportion of the force of 2,000 men which Stanley has consists of Zanzibaris, whose Arab blood has given them a manliness and stability of character beyond that of the finest negro races.

Just before the Congo leaps down the first of the long series of rapids by which it descends from the central African plateau to the sea, it expands into a lake twenty five miles long and sixteen broad, dotted with islands, and surrounded by mountains from 1,000 to 3,000 feet in height. This is Stanley Pool, and near its western outlet is Leopoldville, the most important station of the International Association and the headquarters of Stanley himself. Mr. Johnston prophesies for it a great future, and thinks it "is destined to be the great Empire City of central Africa." He says confidently: "It will one day be the terminus of a railway from the coast, and the starting point of a river journey half across Africa." And his confidence has some reason, since from it 5,000 miles of navigable water, leading north, south, and east into the heart of the continent, are accessible; but as yet there are few signs of the realization of these hopes, little more than a foothold having been obtained thus far in the country. Still, they are upheld by such experienced observers as Maj. Gen. Sir Frederick Goldsmid and Mr. Delmar Morgan, who last fall made an official visit to the Congo, during which the latter ascended the river as far as Stanley Pool. In an address made before the

Royal Geographical Society in February, 1884, Sir Frederick Goldsmid said:

"With regard to the trade on the Congo, he did not think that as yet there had been any palpable increase in the imports and exports, but this result could hardly be expected so soon. He had little doubt that when more stations had been formed, and the aims and objects of the Association were more clearly understood, the whole would in time become centres, as it were, of traffic, and a great impetus would be given to commerce and the march of civilization." [Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society, April, 1884.]

From Leopoldville our traveller ascended the river in a whale-boat some two hundred miles to Bôlôbô, at the time of his visit the furthest station, though in January, 1884, others had been founded far beyond it. Here the population is very dense, there being "an almost continued series of villages on the east bank," occupying nearly every available spot. This region seems to have escaped the blighting influences of the slave trade, which has almost depopulated the country on the lower river, so that there is hardly a village to be seen upon its banks. The natives are a finer race of men than the coast negroes—kindly, intelligent, and singularly free from "vexatious superstitions." His experience is that

"the more we advance into the interior along the Congo, the higher in social science the natives seem to stand. The houses, their furniture, decoration, and orderly comfort; the utensils, the pottery, and the work in metal—all seem to undergo a material improvement and development in proportion as we leave the coast behind us."

The closing chapters, constituting about a third of the book, are devoted to the natural history of the country, and contain descriptions, often admirably illustrated from his drawings, of plants, insects, birds, and animals collected or observed by him. He saw several herds of elephants on the upper river, where they are not hunted by the natives. The ivory brought to the coast comes from the far interior. The hippopotami are very numerous, and often troublesome. Of snakes, which are "decidedly rare," he saw but three specimens; and he adds: "It is quite possible to voyage right up the Congo and return to Europe without the glimpse of a serpent." On the other hand, Mr. Delmar Morgan speaks of halting at a place on the river "where the Zanzibaris could be seen chasing snakes, with which the place swarmed." Mr. Johnston ends his modest and interesting account of his travels, which has already reached the third edition, with "a short glossary of the four languages spoken on the western Congo, from the equator to the sea." Though young, as certain infelicities of style and matter here and there show, he has won for himself a by no means insignificant place among African travellers. To a remarkable fitness in constitution for withstanding the dangers of the climate, he joins a temperament and address admirably adapted to win the confidence of the natives. As attention has recently been called to the almost certainly fatal effect of the climate of the Congo upon the white man, it may be proper to close this notice with Mr. Johnston's experience on this point:

"These fleeting touches of fever, rarely lasting more than a few hours, and scarcely worthy to be chronicled, were the only form of indisposition I ever had during my sixteen months passed in the Dark Continent."

RECENT NOVELS.

The Surgeon's Stories. Times of Frederick I. By L. Topelius. Translated from the original Swedish. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co. 1884.

The Usurper. An Episode in Japanese History. By Judith Gautier. From the French by Abby Langdon Alger. Boston: Roberts Brothers.

Armine. By Christian Reid. New York: Catholic Publication Society Co.

In the West Country. By May Crommelin. Harper's Franklin Square Library.

But a Philistine. By Virginia F. Townsend. Boston: Lee & Shepard.

Barbara Thayer. By Annie Jenness Miller. Boston: Lee & Shepard.

Eustis. By Robert A. Birt. Boston: James R. Osgood & Co.

At Daybreak. By A. Stirling. Boston: James R. Osgood & Co.

Sapho. Mœurs Parisiennes. Par Alphonse Daudet. Paris: Charpentier; New York: F. W. Christern.

Lise Fleuron. Par Georges Ohnet. Paris: Paul Ollendorff; New York: F. W. Christern.

THE "Surgeon's Stories" afford a very good example of the old-fashioned historical novel, and from them the reader can gather very agreeably a good and accurate knowledge of the general facts of Swedish history during the last three centuries. No description of an historian, for example, could impress so strongly upon the imagination the devastations and demoralization of a long war as the picture here presented, and particularly the incidental allusions to the general disturbance in business and industry. The general idea of the series, which tells the fortunes of two rival Finnish families, generation after generation, the same names and, in part, the same characters appearing in successive volumes, adds much to the interest of the series. When these fictitious characters are brought in contact with really historical personages, a new question arises—how far a novelist has the right to ascribe acts and words to real persons, and what is more, attribute motives to them which may have been wholly at variance with their real characters. Again, we are not always certain what is historical and what not. Count Horn is a well-known historical personage; but how with Count Bertelsköld, who is represented to have succeeded him for a few days as Prime Minister in 1789? We have not been able to find out whether there ever was such a person. The translation is good, but with some inelegances. "Equally as" (p. 31) is newspaper English; "hitch" for "harness" (p. 101) is colloquial; "whom he supposed was to be found in this cave" (p. 209) is bad grammar; "we would be acting cruelly" (p. 325) is a form of speech which it is useless, perhaps, to resist any longer. On page 109 we find mention of August II. and Gustaf III.; why not then Karl XII. and Fredrik I.? The Latinized forms *Augustus*, *Adolphus*, and *Gustavus* are the accepted English forms.

"The Usurper" is a very feeble attempt at an historical novel. The "episode" took place in 1615, when Iyeyasu, the founder of the Tokugawa line of shoguns, or military rulers, had pacified Japan by carrying out the policy of Hideyoshi. Around Hideyori, the son of Hideyoshi gathered the opponents of Iyeyasu, and in the battle and siege of the castle of Osaka Hideyori lost his life. Henceforth, Iyeyasu—unquestionably one of the ablest men in the history of Japan—was left free to carry out his policy of unifying the nation, perfecting feudalism, and of making impossible a return of the civil wars, from which the country had suffered for nearly three hundred years. The author of the story before us, selecting one of the most dramatic periods of Japanese history, ought to have given us at least a readable narrative; but

the plot is next to nothing, and the analysis of character has been made chiefly from the study of fans, vases, and old brocade. We have looked carefully through the thirty-one chapters to discover a Japanese man or woman, but instead see only French ladies and gentlemen dressed in clothes imported from Kioto, with some lay-figures in the background, scissored out of ice-cream napkins or paper umbrellas, or possibly whittled out of tea-trays, the wood of which "can't stand the climate." There is scarcely one chapter in the book which could not have been written after studying a lacquer cabinet, visiting a crockery store, or conning a map of Nipon. Indeed, it may be said that geography is the best part of the book, being up to the best French maps, gazetteers, and Aimé Humbert's "Le Japon Illustré," which the author has evidently searched with diligence. Yet why did not the translator consult some one of the score or so of fresh books on Japan, and give us recognizable names instead of the mess of words which the author sets into her mosaic work in their French, Italian, Swiss, English, multiform and amorphous spelling? Who can recognize Iyeyasu in Hieyasu, *howo* in Fou-an, and Loo when there is no *!in* Japanese? The abundant anachronisms and absurdities of statement might be passed over, were any genius, or even evidences of earnest study of the native mind, character, or background, manifested. The work is not even clever; yet it bears marks of industry of a certain kind, and will satisfy those whose studies of Japanese life extend no further than to the flamboyant designs on a parasol or glove-box. Instead of pronouncing judgment on "The Usurper," the critic might do well simply to invite the reader to compare it with that book by Théophile Gautier himself, "The Story of a Mummy," as a reproduction of a life remote both in time and place. The Egyptian tale is, in a word, life itself. The archaeologist may take such exception as he pleases to the details, but the strong thrill of human passion is felt through it all. The Japanese story is only a series of sketches so disconnected that to make out the characters requires a laborious attention that will not be given to a book meant for entertainment. The descriptions are hard and cold, an inventory rather than an artistic picture. The writer's study of Japan has not availed to teach her that essential trait of Japanese art, the suggestion of a complete whole from a few cunningly selected parts. The English version has the unusual merit of not reading like a translation.

Now that the novel has become the people's "guide, philosopher, and friend" beyond the rivalry of any other form of literature, it is quite in the natural order of things to find "Armine" a proclamation of papal infallibility and of the everlasting truth of Romish dogma. The mere story is insignificant; the author has meant that it should be. Her pen is held by religious zeal, and every page glows with the old-time fervor of the propagandist. As with a lawyer's brief, an answer would be the only satisfactory criticism. An opponent equipped with the author's command of burning eloquence, her cunning in *ex-parte* presentation of history, and her sincerity—for one may be disingenuous and yet so ignorant or ardent as to be absolutely sincere—might vindicate the victims of "three centuries of error" and answer M. d'Antignac when he blandly asks, "What man of culture outside of the Catholic Church has faith now?" This M. d'Antignac is the eloquent exponent of the doctrine *credo quia impossibile*. Although he lies forever on a sick-bed and looks out over the wickedness of Paris and the waters of the Seine, he is figuratively a mighty bowler, and the pins set up to exhibit his skill are Armine, the

daughter of a French Communist, and some wealthy but imperfectly instructed Americans seeking "to know." His love for the game is passionate and his hand is always in. Unfortunately for admirers of a spirited contest, the author has not seen fit to match against him Duchesne, the spokesman of the proletariat, a man endowed with splendid intellectual force and genuine enthusiasm. It would have been interesting to hear his views on the epithets "eternal," "universal," applied to the Roman Catholic faith. He would not have denied either the age or the sublime repose of Notre-Dame of Paris, but he might have remembered that the Pyramids, for instance, have some majesty and some antiquity, and that these qualities are not, as far as we know, attributable to any sacred essence transmitted straight from Heaven by a "saintly Roman Pontiff." Had he been inclined to prop up socialism with Christian precedent and authority, he might have cited a few facts concerning the primitive Christian communities. Indeed, many fine opportunities are lost through the early death of Duchesne, crying, "Vive l'humanité." He dies and D'Antignac bows his sweet little daughter into the order of St. Vincent de Paul. He bows two of the inquiring Americans into matrimony and a declaration of faith. And still he lies there, looking out upon the Seine, dreaming dreams of revived papal splendor and power, and uttering as profound truths deductions not drawn from the literature mentioned in the Index Expurgatorius.

If any amateur philologist expects fresh fields of investigation behind the title 'In the West Country,' he will be disappointed. Nobody utters a word of Cornish, or any other uncouth dialect, which, however beautiful or valuable to the serious mind, is simply madness to the "average reader." The people talk easy English, and the things they do are very easy things to understand. It is a tale of love and treachery, prosperity and adversity, with a just measure of final bliss. It is told in the first person by the heroine, who, perhaps through praiseworthy diffidence, has not made it quite clear why she should be a heroine at all. Nor does she know enough about story-telling to carry a crowd of people successfully through many vicissitudes, and at the same time keep each individuality distinct. There is an air of doubt, of uncertainty, and of difficulty both in management and expression. She strives toward passion and real pathos, but she is not swift, bold, or wise enough to reach them; nevertheless, she feels and inspires sympathy for generous impulses and affection and fine patience, and she is not without appreciation of the funny side of dismal circumstances.

'But a Philistine' is an example of both pretension and affectation. The pretension is, after the fashion of the hour, to psychological insight; the affectation breathes steadily from the author's own lips, and at intervals from the lips of every character. The chief inflection (and she is in fact the story) is a young person from Boston, who for two hundred pages scrutinizes her mental state, probes her inner consciousness, and weighs every atom of her complex organism; and all this pother is over the question whether she may or can marry the Philistine, or whether she must not, under any temptation! The Philistine is a gentleman of the State of Maine, "great on 'Change." He "scents commercial crises afar off," and has a "settled conviction that he can read the subtlest of woman-kind." Mistaken Philistine! What avails paltry prescience in stocks before the possibilities of a woman who skips down from a cherry tree on a step-ladder, "so lightly and gracefully that one with any fancy could hardly fail to think of a hamadryad floating down from the tree?"

Where is comfort in "settled convictions," when your need is to fathom a woman with a "sub-consciousness"—a woman who, in studying you, gains a new light on Herbert Spencer's "Special adjustment to one kind of work involves more or less non-adjustment to others"? But let it not be supposed that the author has written such nonsense with any suspicion that it is nonsense. She has a strong moral intention, and she believes the situation to be one of the gravest. We have no objection to a moral purpose in a story, and if the work should save one soul from death, we would willingly see a million souls who have no need to be saved, or who don't want to be saved, bored unspeakably. But there are certain questions, considered ethical questions, which are too trifling for protracted public discussion, and edifying to nobody. We have no positive antipathy for a young woman who takes herself perpetually *au grand sérieux*, providing that she does it in private and at a distance. But we disapprove of her yearnings and burnings set forth at length in doubtful English for the delectation chiefly of other young women, all of whom may not see that from a natural point of view they are ridiculous, and from a literary point of view idle and worthless.

In 'Barbara Thayer' the pretension and affectation are similar and almost equal. Here is yet another "perfect type of glorious young womanhood" straining painfully at mental high notes. As a story it is much better than 'But a Philistine.' Some of the talk is bright and approaches naturalness. At times, when the author remembers that exaggeration is not synonymous with strength, there is dramatic force in the situations and real human passion in the characters. The action is swift, indeed, breathless. We hardly know what Barbara's "glorious career" is to be before we find her posing as a reader (qualified at the Boston School of Oratory), "standing for a moment silent while the subtle, magnetic power of her dramatic soul thrilled the atmosphere like an electric current and held the people spell-bound by its witchery." We have no notion that she has overcome her dislike for General Laurens (another man with a little vanity about "fathoming a woman's soul with a single glance") until we find her in an agony of love for him. We hardly believe that Laurens is fairly on with the new love before we are confronted with a wronged and constant old love. Here there is a grave moral question, and Barbara's decision is consistent both with her own traditions and with the judgment of all brave and honest women. It is an admirable action, but before the author can draw a thoroughly admirable character she must learn that a girl acutely "conscious" that things appeal to her "consciousness" is artificial, and that artificiality is vulgarity. Before she can write an enjoyable story, she must abandon her scientific idol of the moment long enough to describe a pretty woman in less nauseating phrase than, "The blood that coursed through her veins was rich, and free from every taint of morbid matter."

In 'Eustis' there is nothing to attract, and nothing but a pervading rapidity to repel. The descriptions of Southern life have no flavor of originality: the heroes are a susceptible and prosy pair, and the conduct of the heroines is so irrational as to baffle understanding. By comparison, 'At Daybreak' seems a work of genius; it is indeed a wholesome, easy-going story. The Danish-American element lends it the attraction of novelty, and there is artistic instinct in the selection of the interesting in character and event, and in the adaptation of one to the other. If less had been attempted—if there were fewer comparatively isolated episodes, entertaining,

indeed, in themselves, but destructive of continuity—the result would have been more satisfactory, and 'At Daybreak' might have been pronounced exceptionally good. But half the beauty of little Betty's devotion is missed through long separation between her fortunes and Axel's. If the two characters had been developed through closer contact with each other, both would have gained in interest. Trustful patience is a fine quality, but to impress us in love we must feel the passion behind it, and to win it full credit in fiction the passion should be converted into action. Evangeline's silent trust and splendid endurance might have been forgotten if she had sat down and waited for Gabriel.

It was with surprise that we received M. Daudet's 'L'Évangéliste,' as a study of religious fanaticism did not seem to be exactly within the province of a Parisian novelist. In 'Sapho' M. Daudet returns again to the class of subjects with which we are wont to associate his name. As 'L'Évangéliste' was better adapted for reading in New York than in Paris, and, indeed, as it was more profitable reading in New York than in Paris, so 'Sapho' is more appropriate to Parisian readers than to New Yorkers. In fact, it is the chief fault of the book that it too exactly performs the promise of its subtitle, and that it is a study exclusively of Parisian manners. The moral of it is calculated precisely for the meridian of Paris. That M. Daudet himself thinks so is evident from his dedication: "Pour mes fils—quand ils auront vingt ans." What M. Daudet intends for his Parisian sons when they come to twenty years may not be read with impunity by American youth of less than that age. Perhaps it had best not be read by the American lady of any age—for 'Sapho' is a study of physical passion, ignoble in detail and wholly without elevation. The title of the book as originally announced was 'Le Collage,' and this slang phrase more precisely describes the story than the present title, the mere nickname of the heroine. The subject is one which has been handled by French novelists and dramatists fifty times before—notably in the 'Faux Ménages' of M. Pailleron. It is the story of a *liaison*, beginning in thoughtless pleasure and ending sadly enough. Merely as a story 'Sapho' is told with all M. Daudet's old skill: it has a directness as simple as that of 'L'Évangéliste,' and it has far more of his old charm than had that painful study from life. The little groups of pleasant people that M. Daudet excels in drawing are here more closely related to the action than in the 'Nabab,' or in 'Numa Roumestan.' Aunt Divonne is one of M. Daudet's most charming women; and Sapho herself is a splendid success as a piece of literary art. She is real, she is feminine, and she is emphatically Parisian. As is usual in M. Daudet's books, there are portraits of persons under which any one conversant with the contemporary gossip of Paris is tempted to write real names, but they are fewer than in the author's other novels.

'Lise Fleuron' is M. Ohnet's fourth novel, and as it began with an edition of nearly sixty thousand, its success is not likely to be less than its predecessors. It is said that M. Ohnet's first novel, 'Serge Panine,' was a play before it was a novel, and it is certain that it succeeded amply both in the library and on the stage. So has M. Ohnet's second novel, 'Le Maître de Forges.' So, no doubt, will his third, 'La Comtesse Sarah,' which we shall doubtless see on the stage before long. But 'Lise Fleuron' will not lend itself to dramatization, and it is not likely to be turned into a play either by M. Ohnet himself or by any brother novelist of British birth who may lie in wait for it, as did Mr. Robert Buchanan when 'Le Maître de Forges' ap-

peared. In default of seeing his story on the stage, M. Ohnet has made it a story of the stage. Lise Fleuron is a sister of M. Halévy's Ciquette, of Mme. Gréville's Rose Rozier, and of M. Cadol's Rose, and she is like them all. In English plays and in English novels, a poor but virtuous ballet girl proves her innocence by supporting a drunken father. In French plays and in French novels, a young and beautiful actress is accepted as virtuous if she confine herself to one lover, and if she dies in the last act or the last chapter amid the flowing tears of all her friends. And Lise Fleuron, like Ciquette and Rose, does her duty in this respect. She has one lover, a sorry fellow, a gambler and a speculator; and she dies with all the luxury of pathos M. Ohnet has at his disposal. Except in the 'Troisième Dessous' of M. Jules Claretie, and in a novel of M. Edgar Montell, we do not know where one can get a fuller or a more exact idea of the behind-the-scenes life of Paris than in this book of M. Ohnet's. Although most of the characters in the story are as familiar and as well worn as the characters in M. Ohnet's other stories, 'Lise Fleuron' gives evidence of a faculty of observation which a perusal of the earlier novels might not lead one to credit M. Ohnet with.

Biogen, a Speculation on the Origin and Nature of Life. By Prof. Elliott Coues. Second edition. Boston: Estes & Lauriat, 1884. 12mo, pp. 66.

It is not easy to characterize this lively essay in the few lines which we propose to devote to it. It consists of an address delivered to the Philosophical Society of Washington, handsomely reprinted in a primer form, with a preface and appendix. The preface is witty if not altogether dignified and wise; and—forewarned by the title—it is hardly reasonable to complain of the appendix because "a speculation" is purely speculative and is too discursive to be severely logical. The address itself, in our judgment, is fairly effective in its destructive portion, and in its constructive portion neither illegitimate nor truly scientific. It appears that a retiring President of the Philosophical Society at Washington had declared, in an old-fashioned way, that "there are whole groups of phenomena, characteristic of living beings and peculiar to them, which cannot be intelligently explained as the mere resultants of the chemical and physical forces of the universe," and which were, therefore, referred "to the operations of a vital principle." Whereupon the representatives of a newer school of science contended that this idea

was now quite antiquated and effete; that life is a result of the molecular aggregation of matter, is an appropriate activity of the more highly compounded molecules. Here is the monistic set against the dualistic view. Our author now takes his turn, and, being pugnaciously dualistic, contends that this chemico-physical theory of life is unscientific in the sense that it is unwarranted by the facts and is incapable of accounting for them; that, at least, it can have no firm standing-ground until it can "satisfactorily explain the difference between, for example, a live amoeba and a dead one." He makes much of the point that this theory postulates abiogenesis, i. e., spontaneous generation, while men of science almost unanimously reject it. We do not understand him to allow that the rehabilitation of abiogenesis, or any probability of its occurrence at some time or other, would render untenable his thesis that life is the cause rather than the consequence of organization. Doubtless he would still maintain that life came to the matter rather than came out of it. It suffices for his polemic to show that the theory he opposes is not congruous with the facts as we now understand them, and gives no real help to their explanation. He who regards it just as probable that the recompounding of protein-bodies should result in a new form, possessing the quality of spontaneous movement, as that the addition of a molecule of oxygen should convert hydrides into alcohols, obviously mixes up discrete things and reasons illegitimately. We observe that Professor Coues speaks of "a vital principle," nowhere (except accidentally, as we suppose) of "vital force," not confounding, therefore, what he means with what the physicists mean by force. Let us presume, therefore, that he conceives of vitality as that which directs physical force to ends. At least, that would be our definition.

Glancing at the constructive part of Professor Coues's essay, we come upon a curious antithesis between his view of the relation of life to matter and that of his monistic opponents. The latter conceive of vitality as a result of matter when molecularly much compounded, and suppose that the more complex the molecular composition the easier the explanation of the vital phenomena. The former, who has to conceive of spirit or mind in association with matter, has the idea that the more attenuated and ethereal the matter the nearer he is to comprehending the junction. In his conception, matter in its most dissociated state, such as that conceived to fill interstellar space, may be capable of "thrilling to a thought," as does the luminiferous ether to solar radiation; and this is the gist of

'Biogen.' Biogen is his name for "spirit in combination with the minimum of matter necessary to its manifestation," and with this hypothetical solder he would "establish a connection between mind and matter"; as if one could any more comprehend the action of mind upon dilute than upon gross matter. Although this style of speculation brings no gain either to science or philosophy, neither this nor any part of the essay strikes us as being open to the charge of resting the doctrine of intelligent will (rather than mindless energy) behind phenomena upon the impossibility of spontaneous generation, or upon the mysteriousness of the beginnings of living things. Altogether it seems to fall in with the sounder view, which "regards the world as through and through rational, and for that very reason does not suppose phenomena to be more divine merely because we cannot explain them by any general rules of experience." South's witty comment upon the foolish people who, as Isaiah describes, used a part of a tree for fire-wood and of the residue made an idol for worship—"as if there were more divinity in one end of a stick than the other"—may in these days be turned against the theologians. But many of them and most of the theistic naturalists have learned the lesson it teaches. A few were wise enough to learn it early. Still the evidence of mind in nature is much more telling in some parts than in others; and insistence upon these need not imply that belief hangs by a chain the strength of which is only that of its weakest link.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Allbutt, R. *The Tourist's Handbook of Switzerland.* T. Nelson & Sons. \$1.50.
Beard, Dr. G. M. *Sexual Neurasthenia: its Hygiene, Causes, Symptoms, and Treatment. With a Chapter on Diet for the Nervous.* E. B. Treat. \$2.
Chase, Eliza B. *Over the Border. Acadia, the Home of "Evangeline."* Illustrated. Boston: J. R. Osgood & Co. \$1.50.
Cralk, Georgiana M. *Godfrey Helstone. A Novel.* Harper's Franklin Square Library. 20 cents.
Culicott, Lady. *Little Arthur's History of England.* New edition. Illustrated. Thomas Y. Crowell & Co. \$1.25.
Fawcett, E. *Tinkling Cymbals: a Novel.* Boston: J. R. Osgood & Co. \$1.50.
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